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The RING

"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"

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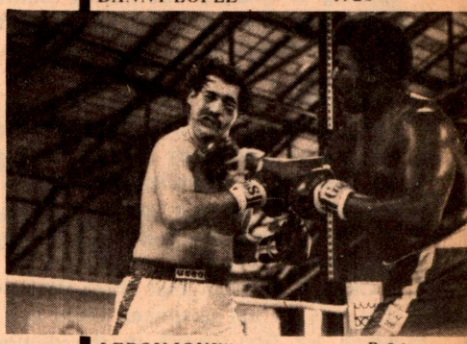

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KEN NORTON *P. 70*

RINGSIDE

The word "offensive" is defined as something "causing resentment, anger, etc.; insulting." But what may be offensive — read "insulting" — to one group of people may not strike another group as such. It all depends upon the subjective standards applied and on which side of an issue one stands.

Since Nat Fleischer first started publishing *The Ring* in 1922 the magazine has proudly run the following legend in the mice type found on its title page; *"The Ring* is a magazine which a man may take home with him. He may leave it on his library table safe in the knowledge that it does not contain one line of matter either in the text or the advertisements which would be offensive. The publisher of *The Ring* guards this reputation of his magazine jealously. It is entertaining and it is clean."

The world has turned on its axis more than a few times since this editorial philosophy was written on graven stone, making it quaint, but hardly outdated. Today we subscribe to it as whole-heartedly as Nat Fleischer did when he wrote it — 58 years ago.

However, while the basic tenet of our publishing philosophy remains constant, there have been many changes during the six intervening decades; changes which must be somehow factored into the subjective application of *The Ring's* overall publishing philosophy.

One of those is that three-letter word that was all but unspoken years ago and which we first found in the dictionary under "S" — sex. When we ran the picture showing Carlos Monzon in a scene from his movie *El Macho,* in the November issue, we heard about it. Boy, did we hear about it! For Monzon was hardly alone. He was brandishing a symbolic pistol over his head as he shared lodging next to the somewhat dishabilled form of actress Melisa Longo. While Ms. Longo was exhibiting far less than Venus DeMilo — and far less disarmingly — we received many concerned notes, such as the one which appeared in last month's "Come Out Writing." ". . . this sort of picture has no place in *The Ring*. In other boxing magazines, yes. In *The Ring,* no."

Others were not so kind, one even calling it "absolutely filthy." We do not believe the scene could be described as "absolutely filthy" since nothing in this world is absolute, and sex is hardly filthy (but, as the old saying goes, . . . makes the world go round).

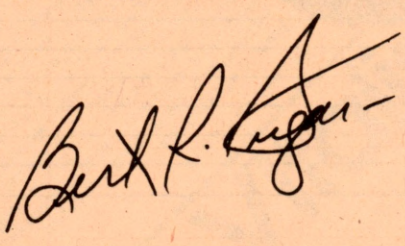
But, regardless of our post-Victorian feelings, we will not burden our readers with our definition of what is —and what is not — "offensive." Especially since it is their magazine. We will, instead, let our readers set the acceptable standard.

But even with the many letters we received commenting on the somewhat suggestive pose of Monzon and mon cher; we received nary a one on something that disturbed us equally as much — if not more. That was the number of gun and knife ads *The Ring* has carried for many years.

Believing that ever since the first two Romans laced up their cestus, boxing has been too vulnerable to criticism that it was a brutal sport, we have decided to apply *our* standard, and have eliminated each and every one from between our covers. The inclusion of gun and knife ads can only serve to fuel further criticism, particularly now that boxing is going through trying times.

Together with the removal of such "offensive" ads, we would like to welcome such quality advertisers as Sasson Jeans, which, each month, will not only sponsor the selection of *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Month," but also award him a new wardrobe; "The Fighter of the Year" to receive a year's supply of clothing, a large trophy, and a check for $5,000.

We believe that in listening to you — as well as to our own conscience — we can continue to make *The Ring,* "a magazine which a man may take home with him . . . (and) leave it on his library table." That is, if anyone is still fortunate, or rich, enough to own a library table.



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1922-1972

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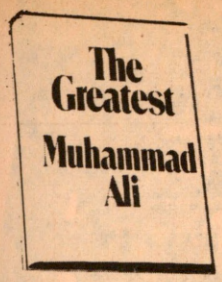

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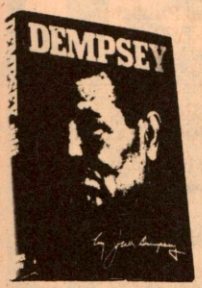

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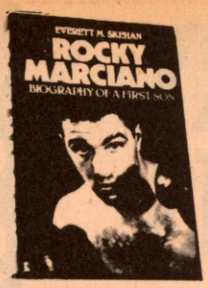

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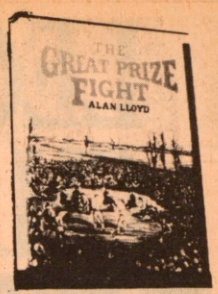

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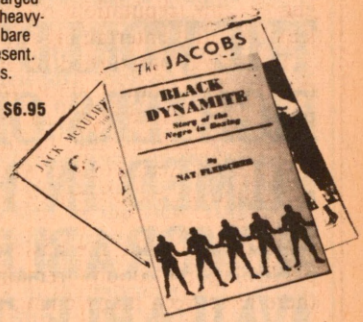

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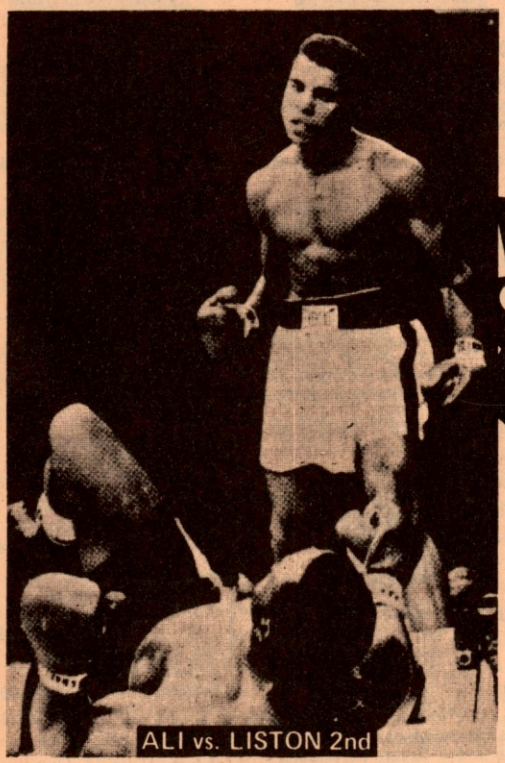

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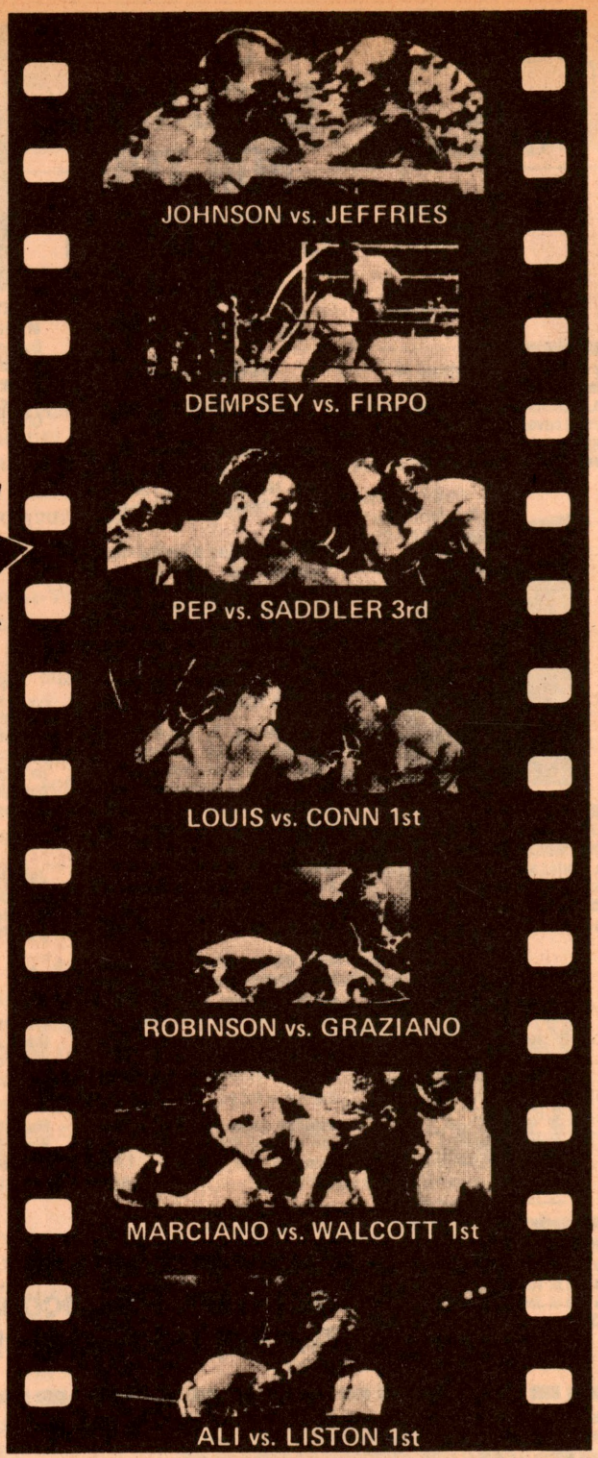

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ROUND ONE

THE PROPHET SYSTEM

George Foreman, former world heavyweight champ-turned Evangelist preacher, was arrested recently after refusing to leave the site of a revival at a school in Tomball, Texas. Police were called to "remove" Foreman and two others who refused requests to leave from school officials.

Foreman was charged with violating a city ordinance, but pleaded not guilty to the charge. He was released after posting a $28.50 bond. According to police there was "no trouble" during the incident, but apparently Foreman's soul-saving activities were not appreciated.

Said Foreman: "Jesus Christ told me in a dream two days ago to go to Tromball and preach, that there are good people there. Jesus went to jail, too, and if he hadn't, he may not have accomplished all he had to do.

"It is not a crime to serve God," he concluded.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

What started as a bar pastime, with fellows bellying up to the bar to bet others on the correctness of their knowledge, has become a full-fledged mania called "trivia". And nowhere has that passion been more fulfilled than in sports, in general—and boxing in particular.

One of boxing's all-time favorite trivia questions has to do with a father-and-son duo: What father and son were knocked out by the same man, in the same round, 14 years apart? (The answer: Phil and Harold Johnson, in 1936 and 1950, by Jersey Joe Walcott in the third round in the Arena in Philadelphia.)

Now there's another father-and-son trivia question to rival that one: Name the only father-and-son team to referee a Golden Gloves tournament at the same time.

The answer? It's Johnny LoBianco and his son Al, who both refereed the recently-staged New York Golden Gloves. Johnny, who has refereed hundreds of fights since 1954—including the Duran-Buchanan, Ali-Shavers, Ali-Foley and Tiger-Giardello title bouts—has now been joined by his 25-year-old son, who formerly refereed the Junior Olympics and looks forward to making LoBianco more than merely a household name, but a ring name as well!

INTEGRITY WITH A CAPITAL "I"

"Integrity," "Honesty," "Morality" — three words most boxing managers, some sportswriters — and many fighters — cannot define, let alone

spell. Many times they will call the offices of *The Ring* to report a victory "you seem to be missing from The Ring Record Book." Upon checking, we usually find out that the "victory" did not exist. It was a phony result they hoped would be entered into **The Ring Record Book**, in order to pad their fighter's record.

Recently, a first occurred. Veteran junior middleweight Mike Baker of Spartanburg, South Carolina, called, not to tell us to add missing fights, but to remove three knockout victories from his record.

"They were three fights that never happened," said Baker. "They were put in by my former manager and one of the former employees at *The Ring*. Now that the magazine is under new ownership, I think those phony fights should be removed. I fight honest and I play honest. If I win, those victories should be recorded. If I lose, well, those losses belong on my record, too. My conscience feels good now that I've told you about those fights. I hope the problem will be corrected.

Baker may have lost three "knockout victories," but his honesty was a moral victory he can forever be proud of.

UP WITH WHICH WE WILL NOT PUT DEPT.

On January 12, 1952, Rocky Castellani was stopped in seven rounds by Ernie Durando. But that was not the stuff of which newspaper headlines are made. They were made, instead, by Castellani's manager, Tommy Ryan, who took it upon himself to protest the stopping of the fight by referee Ray Miller, getting Miller's attention by throwing fifteen-to-twenty punches at him — all of which Miller, a former boxer, fended off with deft defensive arm movement.

Afterwards, Ryan (AKA Tommy Eboli, a family member in good standing who was ultimately found reposing in a trunk, compliments of friends), took on matchmaker Al Weill — who, not incidentally, was also the manager of Durando — breaking his glasses and other pertinent appendages.

Ryan-Eboli completed his night's work by hurling a defi at the New York State Athletic Commissioner, Bob Christenberry, saying, "My license? When I see Christenberry in the morning, I'll hit him in the mouth with it. That's what I think of the current boxing setup. I'm speaking loud, so everyone can hear me."

When he heard he had made Ryan-Eboli's "hit parade" Christenberry replied, "If Ryan has been quoted correctly, this can mean suspension for life. I intend to remove all undesirable characters from the sport. If boxing is to become a brawl, I want no part of it."

As it turned out, Christenberry never had a chance to make good on his threat, as Ryan-Eboli walked in the next morning and threw his manager's license on the Commissioner's desk, never to work another fight in his lifetime.

Now, some 28 years later, the current commissioner of the New York State Athletic Commission, Jack Prenderville, finally has a chance to enforce Christen-

(Continued on page 6)

berry's pronounciamento. For on January 25, 1980, at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum, referee Joe Santarpia stopped a one-sided fight between Bobby (Wildman) Alexander and Carmelo Negron in the tenth round and awarded Negron his 11th straight knockout victory. The only wild thing in the ring after the fight was euthanistically stopped was Alexander's manager, Bob O'Neill, who tried to knee Santarpia in the groin — with about as much success as his fighter had had during the previous 10 rounds.

Because of boxing's recent problems — starting with Willie Classen's death in the previous Felt Forum show — boxing needs less of these vermin in the ring than ever before and Commissioner Prenderville should follow his predecessor's promise to "remove all undesirable characters from the sport."

THE OTHER SHOE

The New York State Athletic Commission, following the death of Willie Classen on Nov. 28, five days after being knocked out by Wilford Scypion at Madison Square Garden, suspended the licenses of Classen's manager Marco Minuto for one year, and seconds Michael Capriano and Al LaCava and referee Lew Eskin for six months each. The two ringside physicians resigned from the Commission.

The Commission gave as the reason for the suspension of Capriano and LaCava "the fact that they both admitted they did not see the lethal punches Classen received in the 9th round. The feeling of the Commission is that in order to best protect their fighter, it is the duty of any Second to be fully aware of what transpires in the ring at all times."

Referee Eskin was suspended because "the Commission feels that an official of Eskin's experience should have acknowledged the custom and practice in boxing that boxers come to the middle of the ring, particularly in the last round of a fight, and he did not do so."

A MOTHER'S LOSS

The death of Tony Thomas in a Spartanburg, S.C. boxing ring left his mother, Dorothy Thomas, with only faith to take the place of her son. "Tony loved boxing," she lamented. "That's what his career was. I didn't like boxing, but it was very important to Tony. I'm not bitter toward anyone now. Those two boys went into the ring and they both wanted to win the fight. Tony wanted to win. He was serious about boxing and he was good at it."

The loss of Tony "is a hard thing" for Mrs. Thomas and her family. Yet she believes "the Lord doesn't give you anything more than you can bear. We will get through this. It was just the Lord's time to take Tony from us."

GOING BACK TO THE ROOTS

Female light heavyweight world boxing champion Jackie Tonawanda will fight two four-round exhibition bouts to help raise funds for a Long Island or-

pnanage, The Little Flower Children's Home in Wading River, which was severely damaged by fire last October. Tonawanda, who was raised at the home, will fight two male opponents. Is that what they call flower power?

HERE'S LOOKING AT YA, KID!

George Newi, an executive for ABC, swears on a stack of *Rings* that he personally witnessed the following scenario:

Aboard a 747 from Los Angeles to New York, Newi watched first WBA heavyweight champ Larry Holmes take his place in the first-class compartment and shortly thereafter rock singer Stevie Wonder come aboard, led by his constant escort.

After the plane had attained its cruising altitude, Holmes, attended by his entourage, stood up at the front of the first-class area and started to hold court. At this point Stevie Wonder's escort came up to speak with Holmes. Newi didn't hear the conversation, but could only guess that Holmes had been told that the blind pop singer would like to meet him.

What happened next only confirmed Newi's mental eavesdropping as Larry Holmes turned to the back of the cabin, in Wonder's direction, and waved, returning again to those around him.

BREAKING OPEN THE COOKIE JAR

This March, *Sports Illustrated* will climax 14 months of painstaking research with a three-part series on the funny goings-on at the WBC and WBA. Pat Putnam, who documented his findings with affidavits and sworn testimony, finds that one WBC "challenger," whom they had ranked #2 — and who, accommodatingly, lost in two — was fighting his *first* pro fight. Wait, there's more . . . But you'll find it all in *Sports Illustrated* this month.

A BOXER'S TRAINING IS NEVER DONE

Two young New York fighters recently staged a tag-team bout with a mugger in Penn Station. Welterweight Hilton Cohen and junior welterweight Billy Costello were awaiting their train when they were witnesses to a mugging. Rather than employing the usual New Yorker's "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" approach, the two Good Samaritans jumped in to give the muggee a hand, making sure that the mugger stayed around until police arrived on the scene.

AND IN THIS CORNER

Guiding Sugar Ray Leonard to the WBC welterweight crown was no novelty for trainer Angelo Dundee. After all, Dundee has been the trainer for some of the greatest world boxing champions — including Muhammad Ali, Carmen Basilio, Sugar Ramos, Luis Rodriguez and Willie Pastrano.

Recently one of Dundee's trainees, light middleweight Steve Gregory, fought Ayub Kalule in Copenhagen for the WBA title. Gregory lost the bout to undefeated Kalule, but had he won the title, Dundee might have found himself faced with a problem: If Gregory was matched with Leonard, which corner would Dundee serve in?

Said Dundee, before Gregory's fight, "You never want to think about that sort of thing until you have to." Fortunately — or unfortunately — he did not have to make that decision.

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___ 4050 - Official Competitive Headguard	50.00	37.50
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MOUTHPIECES:

	List	KO Price
___ 4401 - Single white para rubber mouthpiece	$1.20	$.90
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	List	KO Price
___ 4444 - Top Professional Ball Bearing Swivel	$20.00	$15.00
___ 4440 - Professional Detachable Swivel	12.00	9.00

HANDWRAPS:

	List	KO Price
___ 4450 - Herringbone Tape Handwrapping	$3.80/pr.	$2.85
___ 4451 - Woven 2" soft Elastic Handwrapping	6.50/pr.	4.88

FIGHT GLOVES:

	List	KO Price
___ 2106 - Top Pro Safety Guard 6oz. Fighting Gloves	$110.00/set (4 gloves)	$82.50
___ 2108 - Top Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	116.00/set (4 gloves)	87.00
___ 21086 - Extra Large Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	120.00/set (4 gloves)	90.00
___ 2110 - Pro Safety Guard 10oz. Fighting Gloves	122.00/set (4 gloves)	91.50
___ 21106 - Extra Large Pro Safety Guard 10oz. Fighting Gloves	126.00/set (4 gloves)	94.50

ROBES:

	List	KO Price
___ 4385 - Top Quality (¾ Length) Satin Robe	$40.00	$30.00
___ 4387 - Top Quality (Full Length) Satin Robe	48.00	36.00
Full length satin robes are in stock in		
___ Black & White and White & Black		
___ Special Order: Specify solid or color combination		
___ 4380 - Custom Tailored (¾ Length) Velvet Robe	140.00	$105.00
___ 4382 - Custom Tailored (Full Length) Velvet Robe	160.00	120.00
___ Special Order: Specify solid color or two color combination		
___ Size: 36, 38, 40, 42 or 44.		

TRUNKS:

	List	KO Price
___ 4411 - Top Quality Satin Trunks	$12.00	$9.00
___ 44116 - Extra Large (38-40) Top Quality Satin Trunks	14.00	10.50
Color Selection - in stock colors -		
___ Black & White, White & Black, Blue & Gold, Red & White, Blue & White and Green & White		
___ Sizes: S (26-28), M (30-32), L (34-36) and XL (38-40)		
___ 4415 - Luxury Velvet Trunks	46.00	34.50
___ 44156 - Luxury Velvet Trunks over size 32	52.00	39.00
___ Special Order: Specify solid or color combination		
___ Size: 26, 28, 30, 32 or 34.	4.00	

T-SHIRT:

	List	KO Price
___ 4344 - Everlast T-shirt	$6.00	$4.50
___ Size: XS, S, M, L, XL		

PRO CUP:

	List	KO Price
___ 4461 - Top Pro-Foul Proof Protection Cup	$80.00	$60.00
___ 4460 - Pro Foul-Proof Protective Cup	70.00	52.50
___ 4462 - Foul-Proof Protective Cup	50.00	37.50
___ Size - Small, Medium, Large		

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___ 200 Muhammad Ali - full color - life-like size poster

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___ 6627 - Complete 22' X 22' Ring Elevated Platform 20' X 20' Rope Size	6,900.00	5,175.00
___ 6628 - Complete 24' X 24' Ring Elevated Platform 20' X 20' Rope Size	7,200.00	5,400.00
___ 6612 - Floor level Ring (All Rings FOB Missouri)	780.00	585.00

SHOES:

	List	KO Price
___ 4433 - 10" White leather boxing shoe	$46.00	34.50
___ 4435 - 10" Man-Made leather boxing shoe - RED, WHITE & BLUE	28.00	21.00
EXTRA CHARGE for sizes over 12	3.00	
___ Size_____, in stock - 6-14 in half sizes		

PLATFORM:

	List	KO Price
___ 4266 - Professional/gym 30" platform	$320.00	$240.00
___ 4262 - Champion home 30" platform	75.00	56.25
___ 4249 - Budget Platform Kit	54.00	40.50
	(plus freight)	

STRIKING BAG:

	List	KO Price
___ 4200 - Top professional leather speed bag	$44.00	$33.00
___ 4201 - Professional leather speed bag	44.00	33.00
___ 4202 - Super leather speed bag	44.00	33.00
___ 4207 - Horsehide heavy duty striking bag	48.00	36.00
___ 4212 - Capeskin heavy duty striking bag	40.00	30.00
___ 4210 - Capeskin speed bag	34.00	25.50
___ 4220 - Double-End Cowhide Bag	52.00	39.00

STRIKING BAG GLOVES:

	List	KO Price
___ 4305 - Top professional bag gloves	$38.00/pr	$28.50
___ 43056 - Extra large size	40.00/pr	30.00
___ 4307 - Horsehide bag gloves	24.00/pr	18.00
___ 43076 - Extra large size	26.00/pr	19.50
___ 4308 - Gymnasium bag gloves	18.00/pr	13.50
___ 43086 - Extra large size	20.00/pr	15.00
___ 4315 - Punch Mitts	44.00/pr	33.00

TRAINING BAGS: BOXING & KARATE

	List	KO Price
___ 4520 - Top grade leather - 80lb. training bag	$320.00	$240.00
___ 4541 - Champion leather - 50lb. training bag	180.00	135.00
___ 4543 - Champion canvas - 70lb. training bag	96.00	72.00
___ 4544 - Champion canvas - 40lb. training bag	72.00	54.00
___ 4545 - Karate Training Bag - 40 lbs.	72.00	54.00
___ 4548 - Karate Training Bag - 80 lbs.	100.00	75.00
___ 4552 - Karate Kick Board - 2' X 2'	32.00	24.00
___ 4554 - Karate Kick Board - 2' X 4'	46.00	34.50
	(plus freight)	

TRAINING GLOVES:

	List	KO Price
___ 2512 - Top pro 12oz. training glove	$138.00/set (4 gloves)	$103.50
___ 2514 - Top pro 14oz. training glove	144.00/set (4 gloves)	108.00
___ 2516 - Top pro 16oz. training glove	150.00/set (4 gloves)	112.50
___ 2412 - Professional 12oz. training glove	90.00/pr	67.50
___ 2414 - Professional 14oz. training glove	94.00/pr	70.50
___ 2416 - Professional 16oz. training glove	98.00/pr	73.50

SKIP ROPES:

	List	KO Price
___ 4496 - Ball bearing leather skip rope 8ft. (for boxers up to 5' 10")	$10.00	$7.50
___ 4497 - Ball bearing leather skip rope 9½ft. (for boxers over 5' 10")	11.00	8.25

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ROUND ONE

MAMMA MARRIES SUGAR DADDY

In 1976 Sugar Ray Leonard fought in the Olympics with a picture of Juanita Wilkinson taped to his sock. He went on to win a gold medal. In January, 1980, he won Juanita.

Now WBA welterweight Champion, Leonard married the girl behind the sock — his sweetheart of nine years. The wedding took place in Landover, Maryland, and was truly a family affair — the couple's 6-year old son, Ray Jr., serving as ring bearer.

Among some 500 guests were Sugar Ray's manager Angelo Dundee, Olympic boxing teammates Leon Spinks and Howard Davis and promoter Don King. After the reception, the newlyweds, both 23, took off for a honeymoon in Hollywood. There was no word on whether Sugar-baby Ray would tag along.

WHEN IS A *RING* CORRESPONDENT NOT A *RING* CORRESPONDENT?

In the movie *Right Cross*, the doors to the dressing room are blocked to all attempting to enter after a big fight. All, that is, except Dick Powell who gets in by announcing "I'm with *Ring* magazine," and *voila*, open sesame.

Seems the same ploy is being used lo these 40 years later. At a recent boxing bout in Dallas, an old-timer named Jimmy Kyles asked for press credentials as a reporter for *The Ring*, telling one and all he planned "to file a report directly with Nat Fleischer the next morning." When told that this was no longer possible, Kyles — to mix a metaphor — immediately announced that he was on the staff of *Boxing Illustrated* and with a magical wave of his hand produced a press card from that magazine.

Kyles was finally seated, first row, midring, while the commission secretary had to sit in the aisle to make room for this erstwhile correspondent. It seems that *The Ring* and Nat Fleischer still open doors — or seats.

WHEN IN ENGLAND. . .

The death of middleweight Willie Classen in New York spurred British authorities into action. A tightening of the examination procedures for foreign boxers is now in effect.

The British Boxing Board of Control now requires a medical certificate, written authorisation from the fighter's federation as well as a record of his career covering the two previous years before it will issue a fight permit.

And the Department of Employment announced that it will require six weeks' notice from a foreign boxer before a work permit will be issued for him to fight in Britain. Classen, who fought Tony Sibson in Britain on Oct. 9, got his fight on only a few days notice — while under suspension by the New York State Athletic Commission.

STAYING IN "THE LAND OF THE FREE. . ."

Heavyweight Jimmy Clark withdrew from the United States amateur boxing team the week before bouts between the U.S. and Russia were to begin. According to Bob Surkein, president of the Amateur Athletic Union boxing committee, Clark notified the A.A.U. of his decision not to travel to the Soviet Union, apparently a reaction to the strained political relations between the countries.

DOWN FOR THE COUNT

JACK KOFOED, 85, in Miami, Florida. A newspaperman for 67 years, Kofoed made his reputation writing for the New York *Post* in the Thirties, where his pals included Jack Dempsey and Damon Runyan. Author of 13 books, and numerous magazine and newspaper articles, his first love remained boxing.

TONY THOMAS, 20, Jan 1, in Spartanburg, S.C. from head injuries received in a bout 10 days earlier.

CHARLES NEWELL, 26, Jan. 18, in Hartford, Conn. of brain injuries. Newell, an inmate at the state minimum security prison in Enfield, died without regaining consciousness 9 days after a seventh round knockout Jan. 9.

PUNCHLINES

A story surfaced out of Jacksonville, Florida that Smokin' Joe Frazier wouldn't be opposed to fighting Muhammad Ali in an exhibition. "This guy came up to me and asked would I take on Ali," Frazier explained. "I said, I'd take on anybody—providing they could find a place for me to stay because my family would put me out of the house!"

—by E.J. Gary

VETERAN BOXERS' BEAT

VETERAN BOXING ASSOCIATIONS AND RINGS

Each month *Ring* magazine will, as a service to its readers, provide a partial listing of the addresses of the various veteran boxer organizations and Rings so that the ex-boxer may contact them directly in order to enjoy their comradeship.

The Washington, D.C. Boxing Hall of Fame.
President: Martin W. Gallagher.
Secretary: Joseph C. Gannon.
1910 Kalorama Road N.W. (403)
Washington, D.C. 20009.
(and Washington D.C. Ex-Boxers Association)
Associate members welcomed.

New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame.
President: Adrian Bailey.
Clubhouse: 162 Broadway,
Long Branch, N.J.
Secretary: Jim Oakley
Tel: 201-870-9630
President: 1206 Doris Avenue
Wanamassa, N.J. 07712.
Tel: 201-774-5566.
Meet 1st Thursday Each Month. 8:30 p.m.

VBA, International Ring 101.
President: Joe Poodles, Sr.
Secretary: Charles Campbell.
Clubhouse: 831 South Milton Avenue
Baltimore, Md. 21224.
Tel: 301-327-6805.
Incorporated Maryland Boxing Hall of Fame.
Meetings: First Sunday of Month, at 2 p.m.

VBA, Ring 9. Passaic and Bergen Counties.
President: Sam Siblio
Secretary: Steve Frank.
Tel: 201-759-2130
Meetings at the Bethwood Restaurant
38 Lackawanna Avenue, Totowa, New Jersey.
Meetings held last Thursday each month.
8 p.m.
Fight buffs welcome.

Veteran Boxers Association of South Florida.
Ring 31.
President: Fred Gallo
Secretary: Allie Wolff
1075 Miami Gradens Drive,
N. Miami, Fla. 331
Meetings held at Washington Federal Savings.
Contact: 305-672-7024

VBA, Ring 8, of New York City.
President: Johnny DeFoe
516 Ninth Ave.,
New York, N.Y. 10016.
Tel: 212-563-1223
Meetings: Holiday Inn Hotel
400 West 57th Street
New York, N.Y. 10019.
1st and 3rd Tuesday each month.
Fight buffs welcome. 8 p.m.

Jackie "Kid" Berg recently flew over his native England to receive honors at a banquet held at Warner Brothers Studios in Hollywood. The affair was attended by most of the boxing and wrestling greats, the majority of whom were also members of the Cauliflower Alley Club, the sponsors of the event . . . Nicknamed the "Whitechapel Whirlwind" by the famed sportswriter Walter Winchell, Judah Bergman was born in the London Ghetto of Whitechapel on June 28, 1909. Always highly-trained the 5'9" muscle machine changed his name to Berg. He was managed by Harry Levine in Europe and by Frankie Jacobs and Sol Gold in America. His first recorded pro contest was on June 8, 1924, when he KO'd Young Johnny Gordon in the 8th round. His last fight was against Johnny McDonald on May 19, 1945, in Coventry, England, knocking him out in the 5th round.

Orville Pitts, a former great heavyweight who had his last contest against highly-rated Tony Anthony in New York, is now an assistant District Attorney in Milwaukee, Wisconsin . . . Ray Heling, a favorite of fight fans in the Milwaukee area, is now involved in matchmaking as well as managing, and recently celebrated his 46th year in the sport. Heling resides at 2102 Hillcrest Avenue East, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53207. . .

Luis Carrillo, a former fighter who had quite a following in Chicago, now manages "Phil Davis Men's Shop," Lincoln Road, in Chicago . . . Nino Valdes, former number one contender for Rocky Marciano's heavyweight title, who was under the management of the late Bobby Gleason, never did get to fight for the title. The former champion of Cuba had invested his life's savings in Cuba and when Castro's government took it over on behalf of the state, Nino was left almost penniless. Nino was seen recently as a host in a Seventh Avenue night club in New York. He resides at 160 West 97th Street, Apt D 11, New York, N.Y. 10024. . .

This column has received inquiries from readers for the addresses of certain ex-boxers. We respect the privacy of former veterans and request that we be advised if any ex-boxers wish to maintain theirs . . . Archie Moore, the former light heavyweight champion of the world runs an organization called "Any Boy Can," and although the organization teaches all sports, boxing is naturally high-up on the ladder. Donations should be sent to the former champ and acknowledgements will be sent. Write: 3517 East Street, San Diego, California 91202. . .

Big Gil Stromquist, the 7-foot, 320 pound former heavyweight champion of Texas, broke his leg when he fell off a ladder at his club in the not too distant past while checking faulty wiring. He is now well on the road to recovery and he is back at his night club at 5500 South Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78745. Big Gil, a millionaire who contributes to many of the charities and veteran boxer organizations, will extend a big welcome to any former boxer who cares to visit with him. . .

Artie Levine, former middleweight contender who was described by Sugar Ray Robinson as "the hardest puncher I ever met in the ring," is very active in the veteran boxer movement. A member of the Masons and Knight of Pythias, he does quite a bit of charitable work. He still trains regularly and maintains that muscular, athletic appearance. Now one of the top sales executives for Volkswagon, he can be reached at Queensboro Volkswagon Auto Dealer, 51-30 Northern Blvd., Woodside, Long Island, New York 11377. . .

Kim Lee Chan, a very knowledgeable boxing writer, would like to hear from former boxing people in the Middle and Far East. Contact him at 68 Siglap Drive, Singapore 15, Republic of Singapore. Mr. Chan is sports editor of the largest newspaper in Singapore and is a regular reader of the Veteran Boxers Beat. . .**HARRY WARREN**

HAVING A "GLOVE AFFAIR" WITH BOXING?

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If you're "keyed up" over boxing, you're not a true boxing fan until you have a *Ring* glove key ring of your very own. And the key ring is only available from *The Ring* — of course!

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New York, N.Y. 10001

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Please add 50¢ for handling and mailing. New York State residents add 7% for tax, New York City residents, 8%.

COME OUT WRITING

TO FIGHT OR NOT TO FIGHT

Our prison system is not only meant to punish those who have broken the law, but also as a means of rehabilitation. James Scott certainly seems to be setting an example of such rehabilitation.

It is very rare that prisoners contribute anything at all to society. For the most part, they merely "do their time", leaching off society, and then are returned to that society. With his great ability and willingness to fight, Scott has given the boxing world a great deal of entertainment over the past year. As a devout boxing fan, I really can't think of a better way to make a contribution.

JIM MAROON, Fresno, CAL

What's wrong with American society? How can anybody support the likes of James Scott in his rise up the fistic ladder? A man who commits a crime against society should not be allowed the privilege of participating in professional boxing. How do we set examples?

Granted, Scott is a good fighter, but if he wants to fight, he should be allowed to fight only for his prison boxing team.

I understand Charles Manson is a pretty good middleweight. Would the boxing world support him?

THOMAS McCOY, Sunnyvale, CAL

Should James Scott be allowed to fight for the light-heavyweight championship?—The answer can only be YES!

Considering his past background, it may be difficult for Scott to resist the temptations of a life of crime if he gets out, but he has shown an amazing determination to better himself, and I feel that, if given a chance, Scott would overcome the temptation of a life of crime. Scott, unlike many ex-convicts turned boxers, has the intelligence to determine right from wrong, and—with the incentive of furthering himself—I do not really think he would have much trouble in the outside world.

Scott has said that one of the best functions of the prison boxing program is that some of the participants are able to save money to send home to their families, thereby removing them from the welfare rolls. Such a statement can only be made by a man who truly cares about the inadequacies of the system and is trying to do whatever he can to right a terrible wrong. If the American government and even a small percentage of the American citizens were taking such positive steps to better the system, the country would be in much better shape.

I am normally not the type of person who takes kindly to coddling criminals. But I do feel that James Scott has shown that he is willing to work as hard as is necessary to make a better citizen out of himself, and, in this case, I feel he should be given a second chance and released on parole. If he violates parole, he will have no one to blame but himself. If he gets thrown back in prison, then he should be man enough to stop complaining and accept what is coming to him.

KEN HUGGINS

It becomes more difficult every day to understand the thinking of today's lawmakers when one reads in the newspapers, listens to the radio and views on TV the presentation of a known convict, an arrogant inmate, as a national hero.

The reference is to Rahway State Prison inmate-boxer James Scott, who is handled as a demigod by the aforementioned lawmakers and media under the disguise of rehabilitation.

Here is the media's "hero": a man who had a long juvenile record, murdered a drug dealer, stole a lady's pocketbook and violated his parole. According to his record, as an adult, Scott has never spent more than 16 months out of custody. While in Rahway State Prison, according to prison authorities, Scott has been brought up on charges and disciplined because of his use of marijuana and a "morphine derivative", and for refusing to obey orders of prison authorities.

Not one Assemblyman or Senator has spoken out against or requested an inquiry as to the real reason this convicted criminal has been allowed to be built up to "hero" proportion. Which indicates that our New Jersey lawmakers encourage young men who desire to become popular professional boxers to ignore the law.

FRANK "CHICO" DOYLE, Passaic, N.J.

THE RIDDLE OF THE SPINKS

I was pleased to see the return to action of Michael Spinks on the Weaver-LeDoux undercard. My question is: When will Michael be fighting again? 1981? He is possibly the best light heavyweight prospect on the scene today. Unfortunately, after showing early promise in bouts with Ray Elson and Tom Bethea, Spinks has chosen the road of inactivity. Since the impressive decision win over Bethea in February, 1978, he has had only two fights.

I'm sure he's having a good time away

from gyms and training, but I hate to see good talent go to waste. Michael has a stunning straight right hand, and he's not afraid to use it. With his ability he could be marketed as a light heavyweight Sugar Ray Leonard.

JOSEPH T. PANTALEO, Rochester, N.Y.

GREATS GRATE

I have written to several boxing champions, and none of them have responded. I know these champions have a busy schedule, but I wish they would at least send something to their fans to let them know that they appreciate their concern and admiration.

JACK BRIGGS, Timberlake, N.C.

A LINE-UP CHANGE

Concerning your article on the Bob Arum and Don King line-up, I believe that this will change drastically in 1980. There are too many new promotional groups with good financial backing plus good relationships with the TV networks that are building their own farm clubs and stables. They will not give Arum or King their prospects after they build them up into contenders. Mark my words, before the end of 1980, the dynasty of Arum and King will be severely tarnished.

JOE DASZIEWICZ, Minneapolis, Minn.

THE TALE OF A SHIRT

I pride myself on knowing boxing—and boxers. And yet, I'm puzzled. Who are the boxers pictured in *The Ring* T-shirt ads? It says: "Contenders, champions and champions-to-be wear the Ring T-shirt . . ." But who are these boxers pictured in the ads? Contenders, champions or champions-to-be? And also, who is the young lady with them?

JUAN RIVERA, Riverside, Cal.

Ed Note: The boxers pictured in The Ring *T-shirt ad have been Gerry Cooney, John Tate, Howard Davis and, in this issue, Danny Lopez;* all *of whom are indeed Contenders, champions or champions-to-be. The young lady with them is* Ring's *Copy Editor, Liz Gary, whose editing suits us to a T (-shirt).*

NOTE: *The Ring* recognizes its editorial responsibility to air important matters of interest and welcomes all views from readers—Pro or Con. This is your forum and we invite you to use it.

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Show your support for the World's Number One Sport and its Number One Publication with a *Ring* T-Shirt. Only $4.95 for a beautiful shirt — white with red-and-blue lettering and blue piping — that fits all. It's the shirt with a punch, one that allows you to show your true colors!

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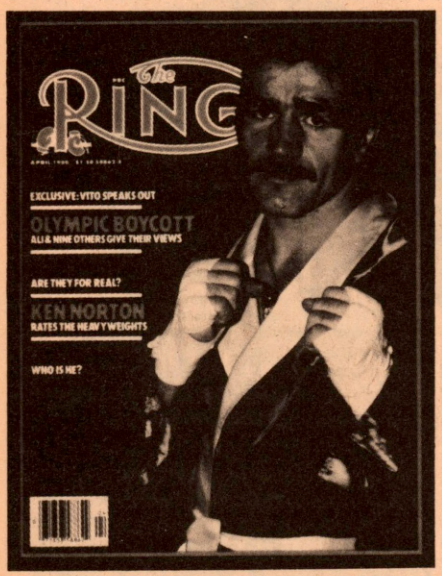

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q Does Roberto Duran have a title fight coming up? Also, has Carlos Palomino officially retired? And, I would like to know if Sugar Ray Leonard is going to give Wilfred Benitez a shot at his title.
—Dewey Henson

A Duran has a non-title bout coming up as we go to press. It is possible that he and Jose Cuevas will have it out this spring with the winner to fight Sugar Ray Leonard. Benitez is also in the running for a shot at Leonard's title in a return engagement. The deterrent to all of this is the war between the WBC and the WBA, neither wanting their champion to fight the champion of the opposition. Public demand and the "big money" that these matches will bring in from TV could make the difference.

Q I notice that Muhammad Ali has two scars by his right eye. I know that Bob Foster put one there, but who is responsible for the other?
—Eddie T. Rendon

A Ali received several "puffs" after his comeback. In his first fight with Joe Frazier and first outing with Leon Spinks he was boffed, but to say just *which* caused the scars . . . *?Quien sabe?* His wife?

Q I was watching the Benitez-Leonard fight and heard the announcer say that if the fight were stopped when the champ, Benitez, was bleeding from a cut then the fight would be determined by counting up the total points for each fighter. Can you explain this?
—Richard Cohen

A The WBC has a rule that pertains to cuts induced by butts — and *only* by butts. If a fight had been halted due to a cut caused by a butt prior to the third round then the fight would automatically have been judged as a draw. If the fight had been stopped *after* that point in the contest then the man who had been butted cannot lose the fight. If the man butted was behind on points when the fight was halted then the fight would be called a draw. If the man butted was ahead at the time the fight is stopped then the man receiving the butt would be declared the winner. The total points of each man would be added up to reach the decision.

Q Did Luis "Angel" Firpo ever fight again after his 1923 fight with Jack Dempsey? What ever happened to him?
—Raymond Morales

A Firpo fought up through 1936, his last year of competition. After his fight with Dempsey in 1923 he had two exhibitions and eight bouts including two "no decisions" with Harry Wills and Charley Weinert. In his last professional fight he was knocked out in three rounds by Arturo Godoy in Buenos Aires. He had thirty-six fights in his pro career, knocking out twenty-five, was knocked out three times, had three "no decision" bouts, won four by decision and one contest on a foul. He retired to Argentina where he operated a big cattle ranch until his death on August 7, 1960 in Buenos Aires.

Q I received a letter from a friend in Argentina which stated that the former world middleweight champion, Carlos Monzon, was about to make a comeback. Is this true?
—Alfredo Rivera

A Not true. Monzon is active in the movie industry in his native Argentina and has no immediate plans for a return to boxing.

Q I have just become interested in boxing and I wondered if anyone had won The Ring Magazine's Fighter Of The Year Award more than once?
—Kenny Robertson

A Muhammad Ali won it on five occasions, Joe Louis received the award four times and Rocky Marciano made it to the top in the voting in three different years.

Q I keep hearing about women in boxing but can get no info on any organization set up for the promotion of the "weaker sex". *The Ring* is my last chance. Can you help?
—Sarah Williamson

A Here are a list of some of the organizations working with women in boxing: World Women's Boxing Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1745, San Antonio, Texas 78296; Women's Boxing Federation, P.O. Box 297, Poughquag, N.Y. 12570; The Women's Boxing Board, 2087 So. Vaughn Way, Aurora, Co. 80014; Women's Sport Foundation, 195 Moulton, San Francisco, Cal. 94123; Booker Griffin's Leather'N Lace News Letter, 3741 Stocker Suite 205, Los Angeles, Cal. 90008.

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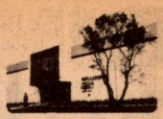

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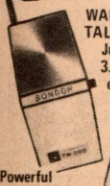

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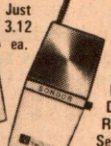

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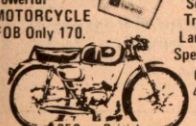

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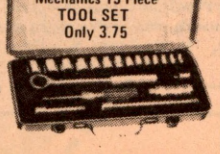

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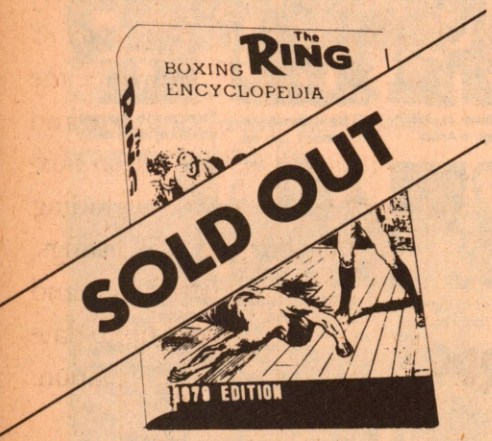

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Boxing magazines on today's boxers for sale. Have two posters and one book on Muhammad Ali. Send for list. Shawn Murphy, 305 East St., Farmersville, Ill. 62533.

For sale: Beta video tapes. Frazier vs. Ali (1st fight), Foreman vs. Young, Ali vs. Spinks (both), and more great fights. Write: Howard Hoffman, 1912 A Avenue Road, Toronto, Ontario M5M 4A1, Canada.

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I have a scrapbook of Earnie Shavers for sale, $15; also a huge scrapbook of Max Schmeling, $25. Louis Rohmeyer, P.O. Box 11 64, Wis. Rapids, Wi. 54494.

Have 40 *Boxing and Wrestling, True Magazine* and *T.V. Boxing* magazines from the 1950's for sale. All in good to excellent condition. P. Rogers, 510 N. McGlohan St., Ahoskie, N.C. 27910.

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Will sell *all* (only) for $200: 141 *Ring Magazines,* '63 to '79 mixed; 86 *Boxing Illustrated* '63 to '76 mixed; 27 mixed boxing mags all in good shape, 254 in all. Contact Bill Morris, Box 5, Rt. 810, Stannardsville, Va. 22973.

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Wanted: 8 mm. fight films, Ali-Lyle, Ali-Powell (1963), Spinks-McIntyre, John Tate-James Dixon, and Thomas Hearns-Ray Fields. Jon Cole, 3708 Norma Drive, Chattanooga, Te. 37412.

Any books on boxing, Louis-Conn fight program, also any Lew Jenkins fight film. Dennis Magin, 56 Vliet St., Cohoes, N.Y. 12047.

WANT TO BUY 1942, 1944, 1946, 1947, 1949, 1952 *Ring Record Books.* Write stating price and condition and airmail postage. David George, 186 Downham St., Blackburn, Lancashire, England.

Posters, newspaper articles concerning Irish-American fighters during the 1900 to 1935 period, especially any Jack Dempsey or Gene Tunney posters, Madison Square Garden or Yankee Stadium. Inn of the Irish Pub, St. James Place at the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, N.J. 08401.

Wanted to buy: wrestling books, published before 1939. Write first, describe condition and price wanted. E. Tatro, 60 Goff Road, Wethersfield, Ct. 06109.

Wanted: cassette tapes of fights recorded from TV. Must be complete. Send lists and prices to Robert Christensen, P.O. Box 561, Ferndale, Ca. 95536.

Used boxing equipment wanted: medicine balls, hand wraps, training trunks and no-foul protectors. Also would like used boxing shoes. Will pay top dollar. Send lists to Ted Labrecque, 3 Bellview Rd., Holmdel, N.J. 07733.

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SALE OR TRADE Official Olympic yearbooks 1936-1952-1966-1960 and 1968; also *Rings* from the '20's on. Wanted, *California Fight Magazines, Referee, Knockout,* etc., 1929 through 1939. George Brennan, 768 Brady Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10462.

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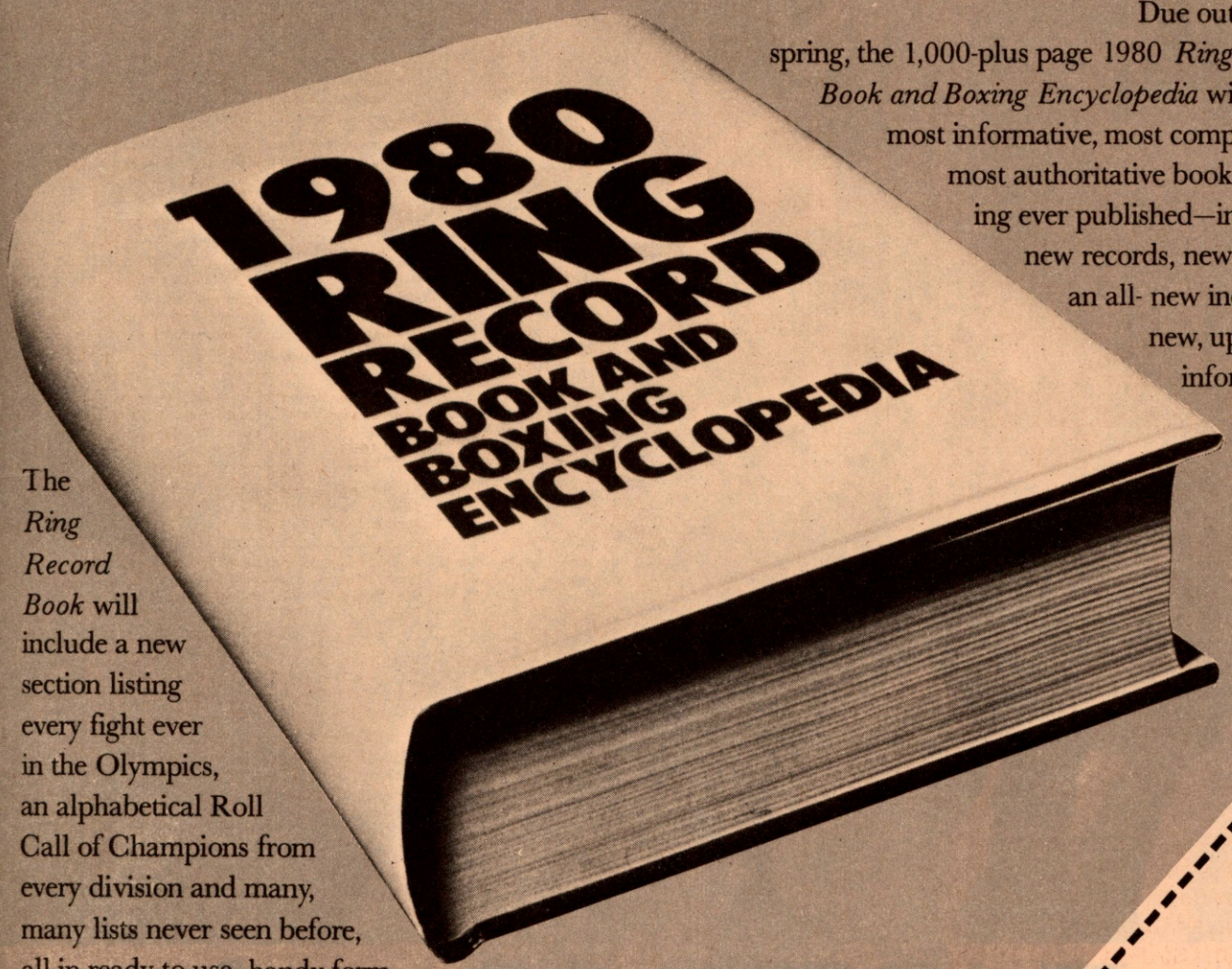
Would like to know much about the ring and to have pictures. Would like to make friends in boxing. Write Isaac Ajertes Kaf, Akuse Business College, Post Office Box 45, Akuse, Ghana, West Africa.

Will buy *Ring Magazines, Record Books* and others. Hard cover books on boxing, etc. If you need these items, call weekdays 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.. 212-947-5899. Angelo Sinito, 21 W. 36th St., New York, N.Y. 10018.

Amateur boxer/trainer will visit Ireland mid-April 1980, would like to hear from all interested parties. Roger King, P.O. Box 29324, Los Angeles, Ca. 90029, U.S.A.

The Ring proudly announces the fortieth edition of Nat Fleischer's



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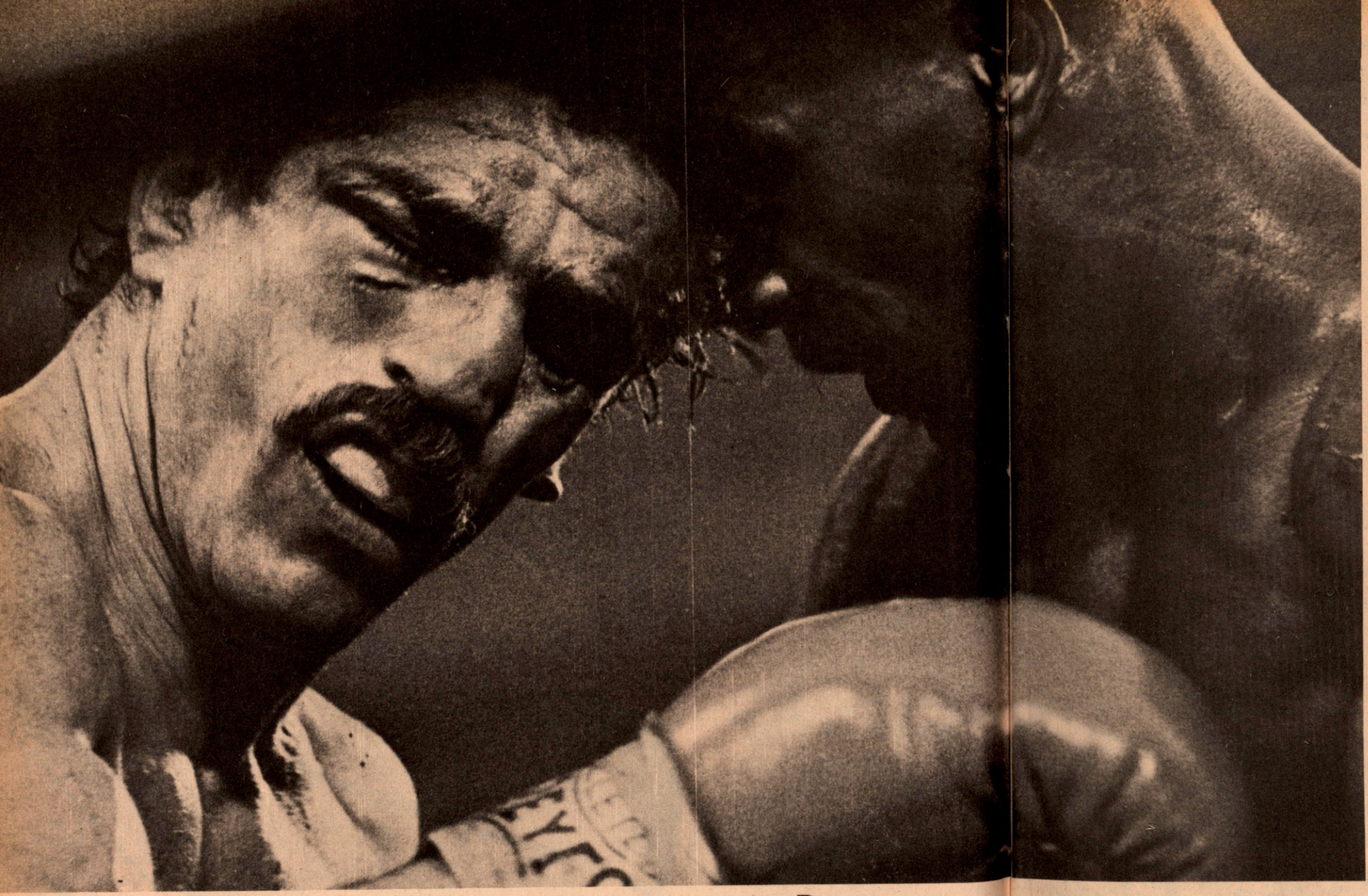
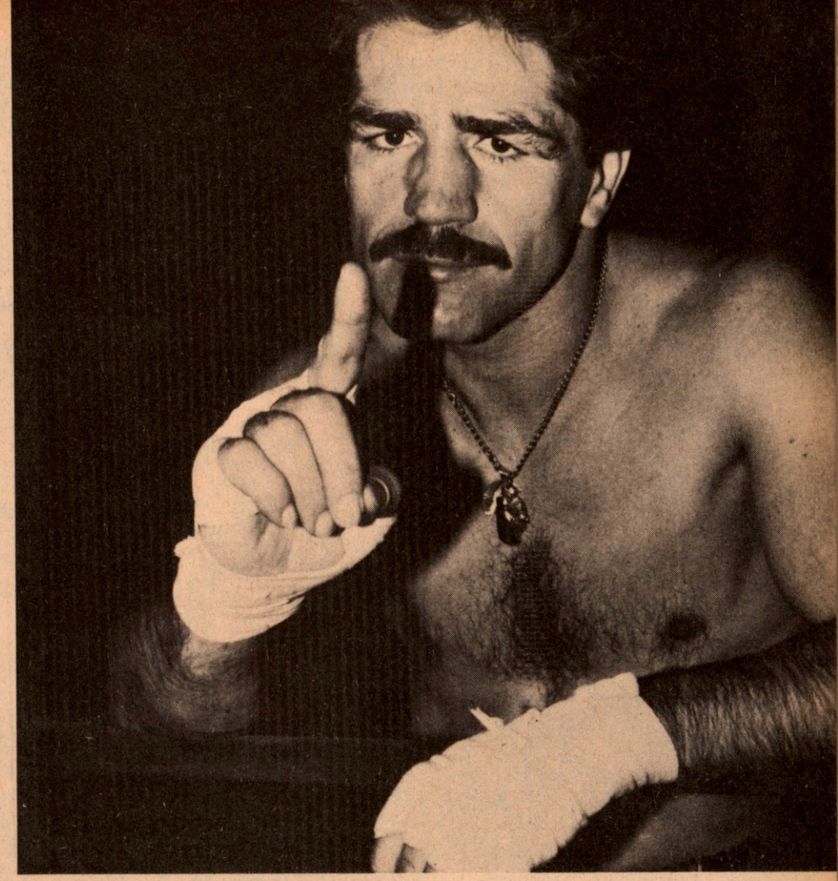
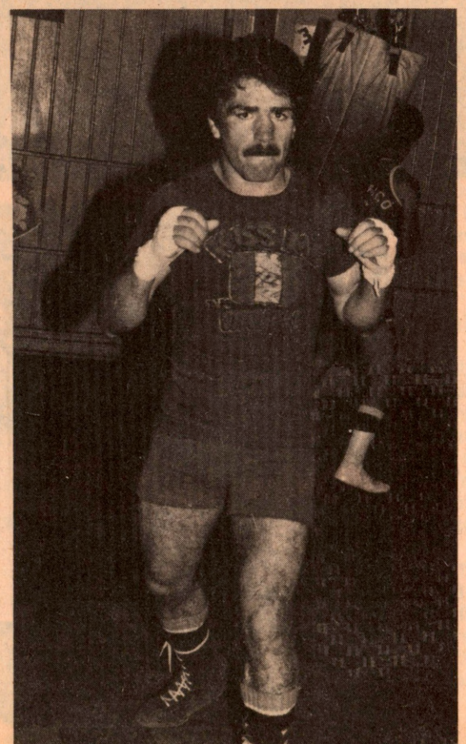






ANTUOFERMO

The Middleweight Champion

Boxing is known to many as the "Sweet Science." However, when middleweight king Vito Antuofermo fights, there is nothing sweet and certainly little scientific about his performance. From bell one, a Vito Antuofermo fight is as close to a back alley brawl as the Marquis of Queensbury rules allow.

Antuofermo is the macho man's champion. Fans know when they plunk down their inflation-eaten dollars for a ticket to an Antuofermo fight, they'll see action. Plenty of it.

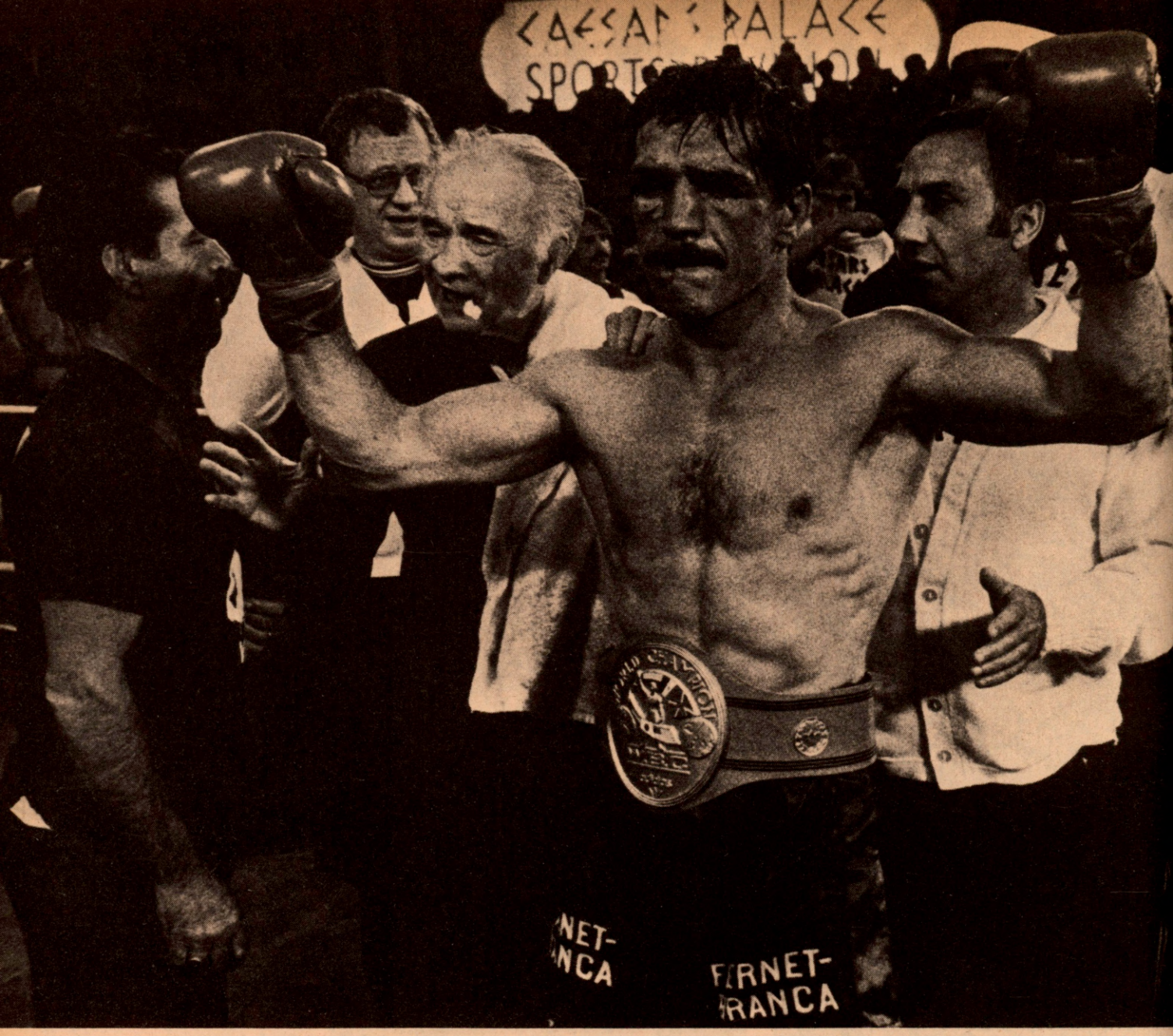
With pugilistic ideology straight from the "George Chuvalo How to Brawl" handbook, Antuofermo says, "I wish there were no rounds, no bells, no time clocks. Just fighting. On and on until one man falls. I'd really like that!"

Born in Bari, Italy, on February 9, 1953, Antuofermo's first recollection of a boxing match was Nino Benvenuti vs. Emile Griffith in 1967. Little did Antuofermo realize he would one day wear the same crown Benvenuti and Griffith were fighting for, as well as beat the legendary Griffith in a Madison Square Garden main event seven years later.

When Antuofermo was 14, his family moved from Bari to Brooklyn in search of a better life, in search of the "Great American Dream."

Life in Brooklyn, however, wasn't much different than life in Bari. There were fights, mischief and more fights. One day, while swinging his fists at some neighborhood toughs, a police car pulled up.

"Everybody started running," recalls Vito with a smile. "I was a good street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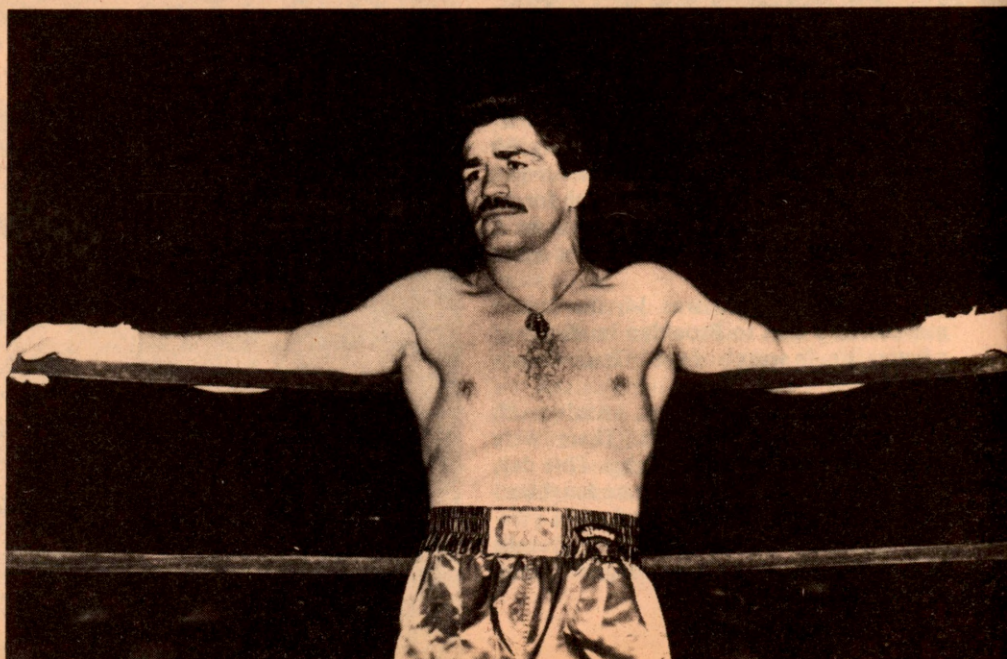
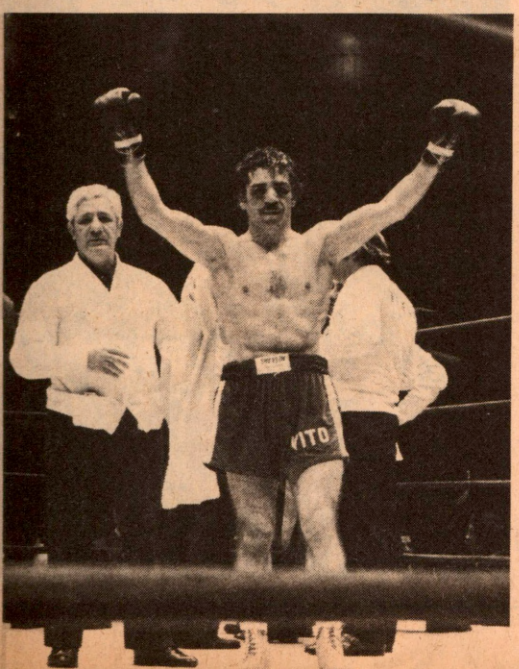




VITO ANTUOFERMO

Born: February 9, 1953

1971

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Nov. 30	Ivelaw Eastman	New York	W 4

1972

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 17	Juan Rivera	White Plains	W 6
Feb. 17	Charlie Hayward	North Bergen	D 6
Mar. 1	Ivelaw Eastman	New York	W 4
April 11	John Presley	New York	KO 1
May 26	Lenny Carter	New York	KO 2
June 30	Don Sauls	New York	W 6
July 21	Jerry Caballero	New York	KO 4
Aug. 28	Gabe Bowens	New York	W 4
Sept. 11	Charlie Hayward	New York	W 6
Oct. 10	Oresto Lebron	New York	W 8
Nov. 23	Carlos Novotny	New York	KO 3
Dec. 15	Al Sewell	New York	KO 7

1973

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 31	Skip Yeaton	Brooklyn	KO 2
Mar. 9	Ray Villanueva	New York	KO 4
April 13	Luis Rivera	New York	W 8
April 30	Art Kettles	New York	W 10
June 18	Tony Durango	New York	KO 2
July 9	Harold Weston	New York	KO by 5
Aug. 25	Danny McAloon	New York	W 10
Oct. 8	Tony Durango	New York	W 10
Dec. 5	Buddy Boggs	Baltimore	KO 6

1974

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 14	Jesse Garcia	New York	W 10
Mar. 9	John L. Sullivan	New York	W 10
May 3	Joey Durelle	Rome	KO 1
June 3	Melvin Dennis	Rome	W 10
Sept. 9	Dennis Moyer	New York	W 10
Oct. 18	Paul Osborne	Baltimore	KO 3
Nov. 22	Emile Griffith	New York	W 10

1975

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 24	Ramon Mendez	Milan	W 10
Mar. 20	Dave Huckaby	Bristol	W 10
June 6	Renalfo Oliveire	Naples	KO 6
June 27	Antonio Castellini	Milan	KO 5
Aug. 8	Vinnie Curto	Las Vegas	W 10
Oct. 23	Ricky Ortiz	Binghamton	KO 6
Nov. 28	Bruce Cantrell	Commack	W 10

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 16	Eckhard Dagge	Berlin	W 15
	(Won European Junior Middleweight Title)		
Mar. 26	Jean-Claude Warusfel	Milan	KO 14
	(Retained European Junior Middleweight Title)		
June 18	Frank Wissenbach	Berlin	L 8
Oct. 1	Maurice Hope	Rome	KO by 15
	(Lost European Junior Middleweight Title)		
Dec. 2	Pablo Rodriguez	New York	KO 4

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 11	Eugene (Cyc.) Hart	Philadelphia	KO 5
Aug. 30	Raymond Beras	Montreal	KO 6
Oct. 27	Mike Nixon	New York	KO 4

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 4	Bennie Briscoe	New York	W 10
June 22	Willie Warren	New York	W 10
Aug. 25	Willie Classen	New York	W 10
Nov. 11	Mike Hallacy	Boston	W 10

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
June 30	Hugo Corro	Monte Carlo	W 15
	(Won World Middleweight Title)		
Nov. 30	Marvin Hagler	Las Vegas	D 15
	(Retained World Middleweight Title)		

from *The Ring Record Book*

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
50	45	3	2	19

fighter, but not much of a runner. Guess who got caught?

"I didn't speak much English then, and the cop didn't speak much Italian. But we were able to piece things together, and he brought me to a gym. My boxing career was born.

During a break in his training for the Golden Gloves in 1970—he won the 147-pound sub-novice title that year—Antuofermo attended a bazaar in Brooklyn. It was run by Thomas Decola, whose daughter, Joan, worked at one of the booths.

"I thought Vito was real cute," said Joan.

"I knew Joan was for me," stated Antuofermo.

The couple began dating. Joan and boxing became Antuofermo's two great loves. In 1971 he lost to Eddie Gregory—whom he had beaten earlier—in the New York Golden Gloves 160-pound finals.

"I lost confidence in myself after that defeat," admitted Antuofermo. "I had hoped to go to the 1972 Olympics, but after I lost to Gregory, I figured I'd turn pro and at least make some money.

He became a professional in November, 1971, under the tutelage of Tony Carione and Ray Skarica, two of the most successful businessmen in the carting industry on Long Island. In July 1974, he and Joan were married.

"I wanted to give Joan a future," said Vito, "and my competitive spirit drove me to heights I never knew I could achieve."

Behind a diet of developmental matches, Antuofermo brawled his way to a 32-1-1 record (the one loss being to Harold Weston Jr. on a cut eye in 1973) before winning the European junior middleweight title from Eckhard Dagge in a sensational fight in 1976.

Antuofermo lost two more times—to Frank Wissenbach and Maurice Hope—in junior middleweight bouts.

"I weakened myself in those fights by dropping to junior middleweight. I'm a middleweight. A natural middleweight.

He is also a natural father.

"Some men are uncomfortable in the role as father," said Joan. "Not Vito. "He's a great father without even working at it."

Sitting in the living room of his two-bedroom apartment in an upper-middle class neighborhood in Brooklyn, Antuofermo talked with *The Ring*'s associate editor, Randy Gordon, as daughter Lauren, born in March 1977, pushed six-month-old Vito, Jr. in an infant swing.

"I'm crazy about these kids," said Antuofermo. "I'm looking to move later this year to a big house in a nice, quiet area on Long Island. Anything they want is theirs. I live for them."

"My daddy is the champ," said the angelic-faced, dark-haired, dark-eyed Lauren. Then she kissed him on the lips.

"I'll always be *her* champ," said Antuofermo. ■

PULLING NO PUNCHES

MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMP VITO ANTUOFERMO TALKS ABOUT HAGLER, CLASSEN, "THE FAMILY"... AND MORE

RING: *Do you like the feeling of being a world champion — the only one in boxing who can be called undisputed?*

ANTUOFERMO: I love it. Sometimes I forget I'm the champ, though. Like the times I'm driving along and pull up to a light and the guy in the next car keeps staring at me. I want to yell, "Hey, buddy, watcha lookin' at?" But then I catch myself and remember, and I just smile.

RING: *I doubt any fighter trains like you do. You go all out in workouts, especially in your roadwork, don't you?*

ANTUOFERMO: I sure do. The other day I was running with these friends of mine who are marathoners. We were running on a track and for every two laps they did, I did three. I'd love to run in a marathon. There's one coming up in May on Long Island. Maybe I'll run in that one. I don't think any boxing champion has ever run in a marathon.

I like to think I'm a pretty good all-around athlete. I thought I'd have a chance to show what a good athlete I am in the Superstars competition on ABC. But I got injured during the competition. You'll never believe how. Bowling! Here I am, a world champion boxer, and I got injured during the bowling competition. What do I know about bowling? I thought you just go out and heave the ball down the lane. So I did, and was having lots of fun with a fair amount of success. I bowled three games in practice and a few more in competition. The next day I could hardly move. In sparring I couldn't do anything right. My back was killing me the next day. That was sometime in August. The injury forced a postponement of my fight against Hagler, which was supposed to have been in October.

RING: *Then the back injury wasn't a contrived injury, a way for you to back out of fighting Hagler, as many people contended?*

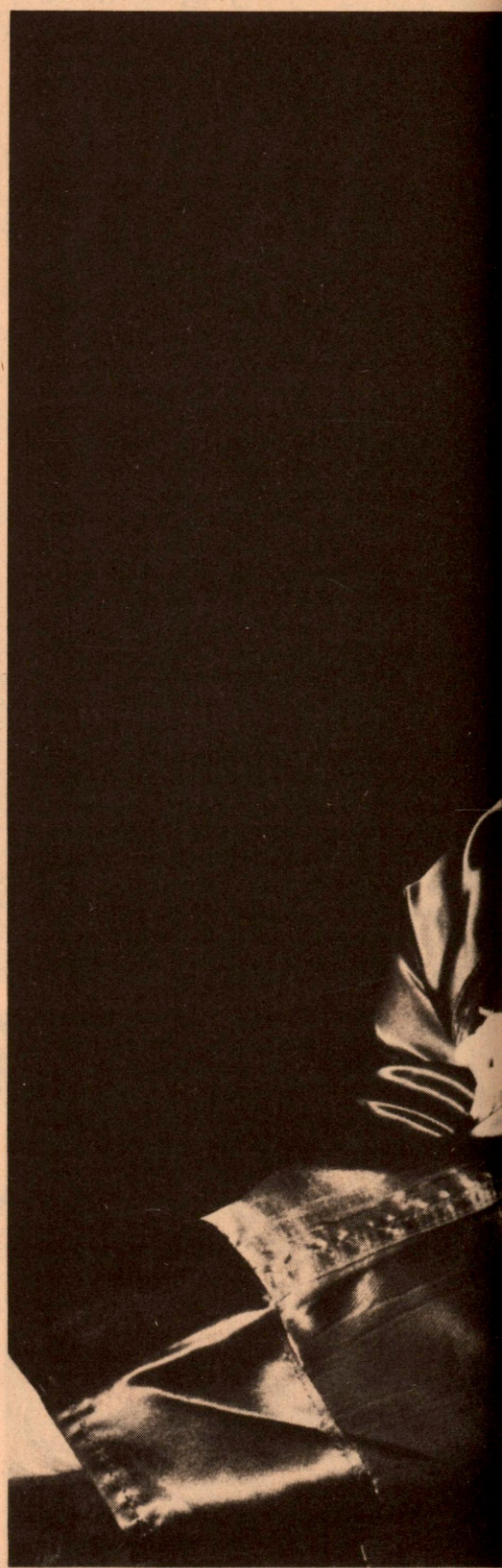
ANTUOFERMO: No, it wasn't made up. I had every intention of fighting Hagler. In fact, I wanted to fight him more than he wanted to fight me. As you saw, we finally got it on. Here I am, still champion. I really thought I won the fight. I just wish every boxing fan could see the fight again. They'll see me lose the first couple of rounds, then come on like Hagler and everybody else never thought I could to outmuscle and outpunch him. And you know what? I fought him with bronchitis. Not a cold. Bronchitis! The next day, Hagler came over to me and said, "I heard you coughing during the fight." I said, "I fought you with a bad case of bronchitis." You should have seen his eyes pop. Hagler fought a sick champion that night. Can you imagine what I would have done if I was healthy?

RING: *If you had to make up a list naming three men you dislike most, would Hagler be on the top of that list?*

ANTUOFERMO: No, no at all. Before the fight he would have been, but not now. I don't know. I really don't have anybody I dislike a whole lot. Even Howard Cosell. He ain't that bad. He said some bad things about me before the Hagler fight, but after he watched it, he knew I won. He knows who the champion is. *Wait!* There *is* a guy I can put on that list, Steve Wainwright, Hagler's attorney. He never looks at me when I'm around him, never shakes my hand, always acts cold. Even the Petronelli's (Hagler's co-managers) are friendly to me. Yeh, Wainwright is on that list. In fact, I'd make him numbers one, two and three (he laughs).

RING: *What were your toughest fights?*

ANTUOFERMO: Cyclone Hart was one of them. What a hook he had! Nobody punched like him. In fact, he hit too hard. They shouldn't have allowed him to fight, he hit so hard. Hagler also was one of my



toughest — Hagler and Eckhard Dagge (in 1976). I was in a real brawl that night. I got cut really bad but came back to win.

RING: *Speaking of cuts, your skin has held up pretty well in your last five bouts or so. Why?*

ANTUOFERMO: I'm a smarter fighter now. I block a lot of shots on my arms and elbows. Also, these guys like Hugo Corro and Marvin Hagler are good fighters. They don't come in with their heads. But I don't worry about getting cut. I have a positive attitude about boxing. I truly believe I will win every time I step into the ring. And fear? I have none. If you took my heart and put it into (light heavyweight contender) Eddie Gregory's body, you might have the greatest fighter of all time. What skill he has. What power. But he fights with fear. I have no fear. See these marks over here (pointing to his ragged forehead) . . . Those marks aren't from boxing. When I was a kid growing up in Bari, Italy, we used to have rock fights. I know it sounds crazy, but I had no fear. Getting hit with rocks never bothered me. I never ducked any rocks. I used to get hit with all of them. Boom! But I'd always throw the biggest ones. When they landed, the rock fight was over. *Those* were some tough fights.

RING: *What about your fight (in 1978) against Willie Classen. Was that as tough as it looked to be?*

ANTUOFERMO: (Vito's face takes on a pained expression). It hurts me to talk about Classen. We used to spar. Then he started talking that he could beat me. The match was made. I didn't even take him seriously. But he took me seriously. He sparred with Hagler in preparation for that fight. But throughout the 10 rounds I pounded him good. Hundreds of punches. I believe the beating I gave him took a lot out of him — physically and mentally. He lost three weeks later to Al Styles, and from there on it was all downhill. In our fight he got hurt. After the seventh round, I could see Willie going like this (he shakes his head back and forth). It looked to me like he didn't want to come out, and (Marco) Minuto was going, "You gotta go, you gotta go." I'm not sure of the exact words, but that's what it seemed like. Minuto is a very bad guy. He has no heart. It hurts me to talk about Classen . . . Really hurts!

RING: *Did you ever hear stories that Classen might have been on drugs?*

ANTUOFERMO: I heard lots of those stories. But I don't know if he really did, or not. If he did, he was a fool. You've gotta be in top shape, physically and mentally, when you fight.

RING: *And when Vito Antuofermo fights, who does he fight for?*

ANTUOFERMO: Well, I'm an Italian citizen. But I consider myself an American citizen. I have my citizenship papers. I'll be filling them out soon.

RING: *That's not what I mean. Do you fight for "The Family?" The mob . . . The mafia . . . The Cosa Nostra.*

ANTUOFERMO: (laughing) Yeah, I fight for the family — The Vito Antuofermo family. Joan. Lauren. Little Vito. That family. Listen, I probably met a lot of those guys, the ones in "The Family." But I meet a lot of people. I don't know who's who or what. Hagler is with Italian people. Nobody claims *he* fights for the mob. I'm Italian when people want me to be Italian; American when they want me to be American.

Like the time I was in *Ring's* United States ratings in 1976. There was a lot of phony things going on before *The Ring*/Don King/ABC tournament. I had been in *Ring's* U.S. ratings. But when the tournament was about to start, I was removed, with the explanation I was Italian. The truth is, certain people involved in that tournament had an interest in middleweight Mike Colbert. There was no way they wanted him to fight me, so they claimed I was an Italian and dropped me from the U.S. ratings.

RING: *How do you feel about Don King now? And Bob Arum? Do you think they are working with the best interests of boxing in mind?*

ANTUOFERMO: I know Bob Arum is. He has worked hard for me, anyway. And when my three-fight contract with Arum is up, I'll stick with him. I've got nothing against King, but he seems like he's only out for himself. He's got a tremendous ego. I'll do my fighting for Arum.

RING: *What do you want for yourself from boxing?*

ANTUOFERMO: I'm not too greedy, a couple of million dollars. With the way I fight and the action I provide, I think I'm worth it and deserving of it. Boxing is a very unpredictable sport. You never know who may come along to beat you. But one thing you always know about Vito Antuofermo — he's always in there giving 100 per cent and fighting his heart out. That's what I'm proudest of, something I can take with me always. ■

The Cruiserweight Division: Does anyone Know What it is

BY ARTHUR REMBERT JR.

The World Boxing Council recently sanctioned a weight class called the "cruiserweight" division. Just what is a cruiserweight? It certainly isn't the same class that the British used to sanction, because they were actually light heavyweights. Not only that, but the early 1970s saw Great Britain do the same with the cruiser name that the United States did with the cruiser warship after World War II — put it to rest. That still doesn't answer our question, however. Once again, what the heck is a cruiserweight?

The dictionary tells us that a "cruiser" is a "person who cruises to and fro, or wanders about". So much for Webster's Dictionary. The WBC, says (and they should know!) that a cruiserweight is a boxer who weighs between 175 and 190 pounds. Why not just call it the "Jr. Heavyweight" division; or is that too easy?

Although neither *The Ring* nor the WBA has adopted the cruiserweight concept, it is not a new idea. Indeed, for years knowledgeable boxing people have encouraged the powers-that-be to create a new division which would sit somewhere between the light heavyweight and heavyweight classes. Preferably one with fighters weighing between 175 and 200 pounds as opposed to a mere 190.

The Ring Record Book and Encyclopedia tells us that former greats Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney and Rocky Marciano very seldom, if ever, weighed more than 190 pounds. Not only that, but both Marciano and Dempsey freely admitted that their best fighting weights were 188 and 186 respectively. What we have to remember, however, is that when we speak of Marciano and Dempsey, we're talking about two of the greatest heavyweight champions in boxing history.

Just as the rest of the world has grown over the years, today's fighter is bigger, stronger, and faster than yesterday's edition. We simply must face the fact that the day of the heavyweight champion weighing less than 190 pounds is passe. The time-honored theory that a good big man beats a good little man takes on an added dimension when you try to envision a fighter weighing 186 pounds taking on the likes of Earnie Shavers, John Tate, Larry Holmes, George Foreman, Joe Frazier, or Muhammad Ali.

Once you accept the idea of a cruiserweight division, the question is: Does the boxing world have enough quality fighters between 175 and 190 to make the class competitive? Evidently the WBC thinks so, because they've come up with a list of 20 so-called "contenders". Among them is Steve Homan, a lightweight who has somehow *wandered* (remember class, a cruiser is a "person who cruises to and fro, or *wanders* about") from the lightweight division where he was not ranked, to the cruiserweight division, where he is ranked 19th.

The new division didn't help itself much when it held an internationally televised bout for the vacant cruiserweight title between Marvin Camel and Mate Parlov. The fight, which ended in a 15-round draw, deprived Camel, who looked like the winner, a line in all trivia books as the *first* cruiserweight champion.

Maybe the "cruiserweight" title is "wandering about" too!

DO WE NEED A CRUISERWEIGHT DIVISION, OR IS IT A FARCE? RING MAGAZINE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT *YOU* THINK. SEND YOUR OPINION TO THE RING OFFICE BY MARCH 31st AND ADDRESS IT TO:

Ring Magazine c/o Cruiserweight Poll
120 West 31st Street
New York, NY. 10001

The Cruiserweight Division's Top Ten

TB = Total Bouts WD = Wins by Decision LD = Losses by Decision D = Draws KO = Knockouts KO BY = Knocked Out by

1. MARVIN CAMEL

(Missoula, Montana)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
37	18	2	2	15	0

An impressive record to say the least, but his calibre of opposition guarantees him no less. Presently Camel's claim to fame is winning a 10-round decision over current WBC 175-pound king Saad Muhammad back in 1976. Muhammad, formerly Matt Franklin, had beaten Camel earlier in the year and the return bout, won by Camel, was fought in Camel's hometown of Missoula, Montana. Camel, 4-1 this year, should know about hometown decisions since he recently came out on the short end of a 15-round draw against Mate Parlov for the vacant cruiserweight title in (you guessed it!) Yugoslavia.

2. MATE PARLOV

(Yugoslavia)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
27	11	1	2	12	1

This 1972 Olympic gold medal winner dieted on a menu of general-to-decent stiffs before sneaking through the back door and winning the vacant WBC light heavyweight title with a ninth round kayo over Miguel Angel Cuello in January of 1978. After receiving a gift decision win in his initial title defense in Yugoslavia against former champion John Conteh, Parlov was relieved of his title by Marvin Johnson who knocked him out in 10 rounds. Parlov recently received still another gift verdict when he was awarded a draw in his bout against Marvin Camel for the vacant cruiserweight title.

3. CARLOS DE LEON

(Puerto Rico)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
25	6	1	1	17	0

De Leon's statistics are impressive, but the calibre of his opposition is questionable. Of his 25 bouts, 22 took place in either Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, so we don't know too much about him. We do know, however, that De Leon has stopped Battling Douglas, Top Cat Jackson, Tripoti Guadalupe, and Kid Gavilan Jr. De Leon's lone loss — against welterweight Ray Hammond — does tend to make you question his credentials as a "cruiserweight" contender.

4. VICTOR GALINDEZ

(Argentina)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
61	21	4	4	29	3

The former two-time WBA light heavyweight champ is easily the class of the division, even if he is over the hill. Victor Galindez became the first light heavyweight in history to regain the title (WBA version) when he reversed an embarrassing knockout loss to Mike Rossman by stopping the Jewish Bomber in a rematch. This appeared to be his Swansong, however, as he had his jaw broken while being demolished by Marvin Johnson in his last fight.

5. TOMMY EVANS

(Oakland, Calif.)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
16	1	1	1	13	0

Evans is another fighter with impressive stats. But with the exception of his kayo victory over former light heavyweight contender Mike Quarry, Tommy has never really shown that he is ready to deal with the big boys in his own division, let alone step up in class.

6. JESSE BURNETT

(L.A. Calif.)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
26	9	6	1	8	2

Jesse Burnett has been campaigning since 1972 and has competed with the top echelon in the light heavyweight division. He has victories over Yaqui Lopez (twice), Tony Mundine (KO 6), Eddie "Bossman" Jones, and Lonnie Bennett. He has lost five of his last seven bouts, however, and has been knocked out in two of them.

7. GARY SUMMERHAYS

(Canada)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
49	22	12	2	12	1

Like Burnett, Summerhays has competed against the better classed light heavies for close to a decade. It's simply been a case of his beating the mediocre ones and losing to the good ones.

8. WALDEMAR PAULINO

(Brazil)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
21	9	1	1	8	2

Paulino, who has fought exclusively in South America since turning pro in 1973, never met any of the area's top light heavyweights of that period. Fighters like Juan Aguilar, Jorge Ahumada, and Avenemar Peralta (now based in Europe) were never able to get Paulino into the ring. When former WBA light heavyweight champion Victor Galindez did, he knocked Paulino out in nine rounds.

9. HARRY TERRELL

(Cleveland Ohio)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
17	6	2	0	4	5

Even Terrell's knockouts over Boom-Boom Moorer, Bob Bozic, and Horst Geisler won't excuse his 10-7 record.

10. LUIS LOZANO

(Panama)

TB	WD	LD	D	KO	KO BY
0	0	0	0	0	0

We have made numerous attempts to contact the WBC as well as the Panamanian Professional Boxing Commission in an effort to obtain Lozano's fight record without success, so he remains simply a name without portfolio.

DANNY LOPEZ'S LAST STAND

THE DAY "LITTLE RED" HAD HIS FEATHERS RUFFLED

By Allan Malamud

Mention the name of former featherweight champion Danny (Little Red) Lopez and the mental picture of a feather comes to mind. He wears a war bonnet of feathers into the ring. When he disrobes, he reveals arms and legs that are sticks. And the man who held the featherweight crown for four years certainly cannot weigh more than a feather.

During the first few rounds of most of his fights, he packs all the resistence of, well, a feather. Ace Endo put him down early. So did Juan Malvarez, Yoshi Goto and Jose Torres, to name just a few.

But as most of his fights progress, his jabs begin to sting and his hooks and uppercuts begin to hurt much worse than that, proving, perhaps, that a ton of feathers *does* weigh more than a ton of steel. And, at the end, he looks more like a heavyweight to his opponent, who is usually gazing up at him from the canvas through glassy eyes.

But on the afternoon of Saturday, February 2, 1980, all of the feathers at Little Red's command couldn't stave off a one-sided beating from Salvador Sanchez, a young 21-year-old from Mexico City who was so little thought of that the fight was billed "Little Red versus Little Known." After a 13-round one-sided affair, all the king's horses couldn't put all the feathers back together for Danny.

Of all the 126-pound champions, none has been able to stretch bodies like Lopez, the former World Boxing Council ruler. At last report, he numbered 39 knockouts among his 42 victories in 46 fights.

Perhaps only the first featherweight champion, Englishman Nobby Clark, was a less likely assassin. Clark claimed the title on May 28, 1860, after stiffening a party named Jim Elliot in Weehawken, N.J. Clark weighed all of 106 pounds that day. Elliot scaled 146. No wonder it took Nobby 34 rounds to do the job.

Little Red Lopez doesn't weigh 106. It just looks that way. "Wiry" would not be a proper description. You search for muscle and you find none. His skin is pale, his face freckled. The hair is red. If not for the mustache and a small mark of his trade here and there, he could easily be mistaken for Huck Finn.

Nobody at the Main Street Gym in Los Angeles, where he trains, can remember him ever raising his voice, or throwing a punch, in anger. He respects his sparring partners, even those who study his frail body, his baby face, and his propensity for running into right hands and decide they will make a name for themselves by decking the champion. They always fail. But Little Red never shows them up.

"I don't think he has a mean bone in his body," said a fellow member of the Ute tribe at Little Red's homecoming last year in Salt Lake City. "And look at that body . . . would you believe that this kid could fight? I can't."

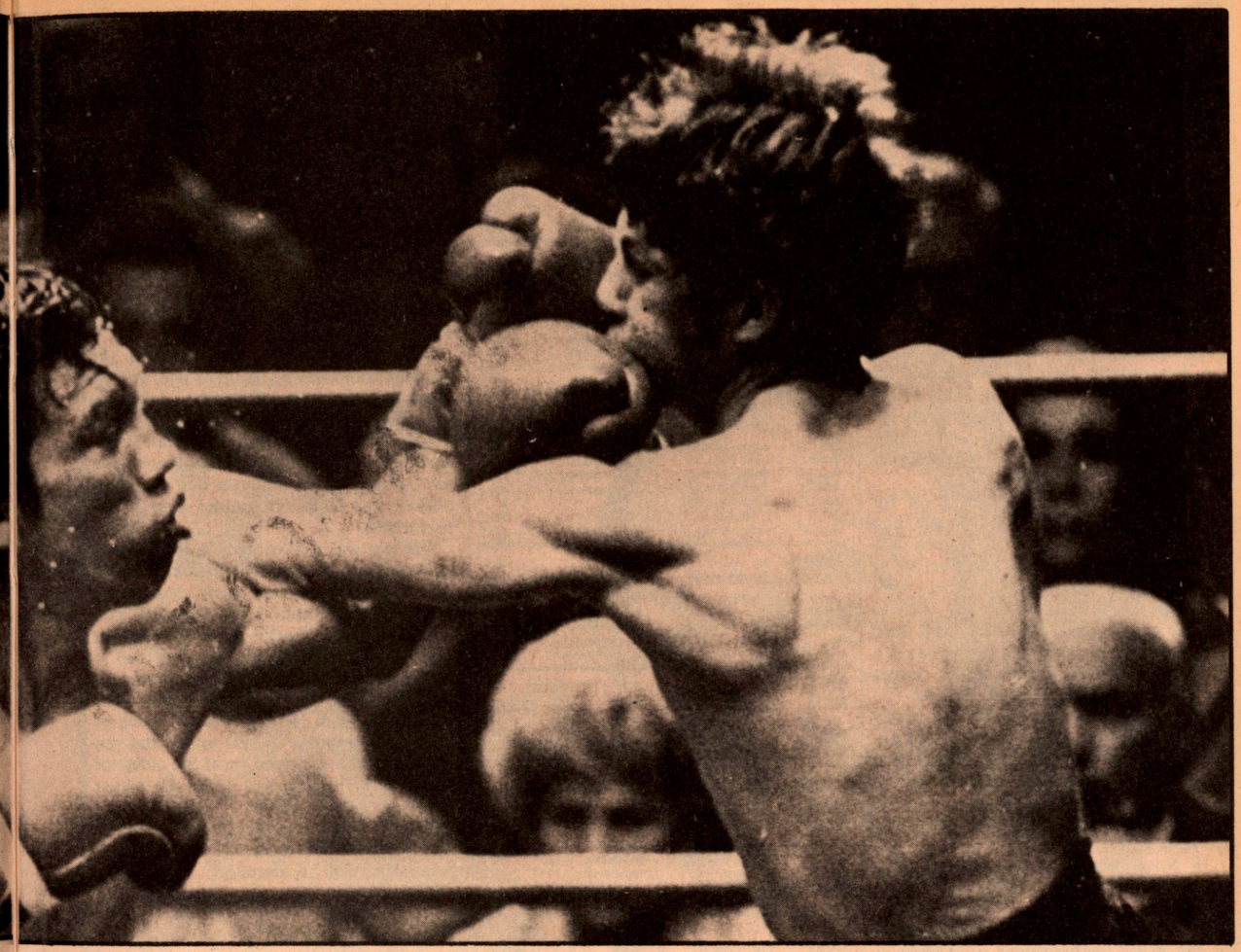
The next afternoon, in the Salt Palace, Lopez made him a believer. He destroyed Roberto Castanon in two. As usual, he ran into a number of right hands in the first round. But this time he remained erect for the full three minutes. Then he went on the offensive. It was as if he were made of bamboo—his body had bent, and then snapped back.

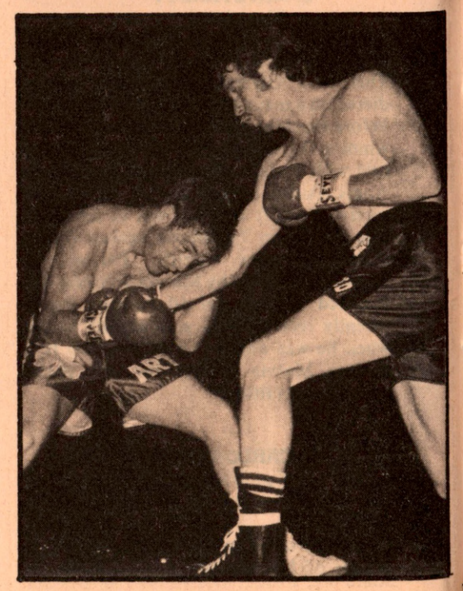
Afterwards, Howard Cosell came over for a post-fight interview. Little Red did not boast. Some of his answers were merely nods of the head. He said his opponent was strong and brave and he thanked "Mr. Cosell" for the interview.

Indeed, his manager, Bennie Georgino, does most of the talking for him.

"Before he's through, Danny is going to be recognized as the greatest featherweight champion of them all," says Georgino, who surely must know that the division has numbered amongst its greats the likes of Abe Attell, Kid Chocolate, Willie Pep, Sandy Saddler, and Davey Moore.

"Sure, it sometimes takes him awhile to get warmed up. It's almost as though he needs to get hit a couple of times. Maybe I ought to tap him on the chin in the dressing room, and then he'd be ready for the bell.





"But he's got that tremendous fighting heart. And look what he does to people once he gets started. They don't come out of that ring the same. He's ruined David Kotey and Jose Torres and others, too. He hurts you with every single punch he throws—the jab, uppercut, hook, cross, everything."

For strength—and easy digestion—Lopez consumes a huge platter of spaghetti with olive oil, cheese and broccoli six hours before fight time. The cook is his manager, who used to own two spaghetti houses not far from the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles.

But this still doesn't explain how a 98-pound—oops, 126-pound—weakling has left 40 of his 46 opponents helpless.

"Muscles and strength themselves don't mean anything when it comes to punching," says Danny, trying to solve the mystery.

"The key to delivering a knockout punch is the amount of weight you get behind it. Some big, strong guys throw punches and nothing happens. That's because they've never learned to balance their bodies and get their weight behind them.

"Punching isn't a God-given gift. No one is born with it. It's something you develop when you start fighting."

Lopez began to fight in his early teens on the Ute reservation in Ft. Duschene, Utah, where his older brother, Ernie, ran a boxing club.

Ernie (Big Red) Lopez was a plodding but tough and persistent welterweight who twice fought for the world championship. Unfortunately, the opponent both times was Jose Napoles. Nicknamed "Mantequilla," the smooth as butter fighter from Cuba knocked him out in the 15th round in 1970 and in the seventh round in 1973.

"When I was 16, I decided I would be a pro fighter," says Little Red. "My favorite fighter was Ernie. I was a nervous wreck every time I watched him fight. I don't get that nervous when I fight."

This is not to suggest that Danny hasn't had his nervous moments during his 27 years on the planet.

He grew up as one of eight children living in a two-bedroom shack on the reservation. There is Irish blood running through the family, too, but his father was a full-blooded Mission Indian, who left the raising of the children to their mother. Powdered eggs and sugar sandwiches were dietary staples.

At the age of eight, he was sent to a foster home, where he resided for the next five years. Today he speaks kindly of his foster parents, the Moons, and often invites them to his fights. But, early on, there were difficulties.

Danny was arrested one night for assault and battery after pulling a .22-caliber rifle on the Moons' son-in-law who once had beaten him. Although he never attempted to pull the trigger, he spent a month in jail anyway.

Later he returned to Ft. Duschene to live with his aunt and uncle, where he engaged in a few street fights. Once he broke a man's nose, something he would think of doing today only in a ring.

After a distinguished amateur career, he

turned pro on May 27, 1971, at the Los Angeles Olympic, where he dispatched Steve Flajole in less than one round. That set a pattern. He won his first three fights in the first, and needed only 21 rounds to polish off his first 10 opponents.

Lopez drew a standing room-only throng of more than 10,000 and a gate of $94,392 for his 11th fight,—an Olympic record for a non-title bout—a fourth-round bombing of another unbeaten prospect, Tury (The Fury) Pineda.

Guided by manager Howie Steindler, he won his first 23 bouts—all but one by knockout—before being stopped by another future featherweight champion, Bobby Chacon, in the ninth round May 24, 1974.

A few months later, he couldn't come out for the 10th round against Shig Fukuyama, blinded by medication accidently applied by his corner. That was a fluke. His next defeat wasn't. Famoso Gomez outboxed him in 10 rounds.

Danny Lopez hadn't looked good for some time. Genzo Kurosawa made him work 10 rounds. Memo Rodriguez was ahead on all three officials' cards before he was stopped in the 10th. Then there were the losses to Chacon and Gomez. He was running into too many punches. And there were those who believed his career was at a dead end. They discounted the Lopez heart; and the willingness to learn, too.

After the Gomez defeat, he was wisely put in with Chucho Castillo, a former bantamweight champion whose skills had long since eroded. Danny knocked him out in two. It was a confidence builder, and the start of a winning streak that ended nearly five years later.

On November 5, 1976—in front of a hundred thousand unfriendly faces in an African soccer stadium—he won a 15-round decision over David (Poison) Kotey for the WBC featherweight title. Only in that setting would the fight have gone the distance. Kotey, the national hero, was bloodied and battered. The bell saved him once—the bell that rang after only *two* minutes of Lopez's best round.

Under doctor's orders, Howie Steindler did not fly to Accra for the title fight. The old man would never see the young Indian whom he had treated as a son fight as the champion. On March 10, 1977, Steindler was savagely beaten to death. To this day, the beating remains unsolved.

Only hours after Steindler's death, some so-called friends phoned Danny Lopez and asked if they could manage him. He was appalled. Eventually, he signed a contract with Bennie Georgino.

"I'd been watching Danny fight since he was 16," said Georgino, a bail bondsman who had often attended fight cards in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, San Diego and Tijuana the same week. "My late brother Al first spotted him. He knew he would be a champion some day."

In the past couple of years, Lopez has also become a national television idol. Finally, the networks have given the little guys a chance.

Most likely the best TV fight since the networks' renewed interest in the sweet science was Danny's knockout of Mike Ayala in San Antonio, Ring's 1979 "Fight of the Year." Ayala was tough, clever, and highly competitive that afternoon, but Danny actually knocked him out twice. The first time, in the 11th round, the referee said he had miscounted. Danny didn't complain. He nodded his head, and continued to go about his business, repeating his knockout of Ayala *four* rounds later—this time so completely no one could take it away from him.

Among those congratulating him in the dressing room was a youngster who said he owed his life to Danny. The boy had been suffering from a serious illness and desperately needed funds for an operation. When his plight was brought to Danny's attention the fighter and his manager dug into their pockets and made certain the surgery was performed.

The boy was well enough to assist Lopez in his training for the Ayala match. "We'd have him hold my feet when I was doing situps, stuff like that," says Danny. "You could tell by the sparkle in his eyes that he enjoyed it. But it made me feel good, too."

A few days after the fight—following a brief hunting trip in Utah—Lopez was back in the gym. He had invested much of his six-figure purse in real estate and put aside some for his three sons, the oldest of whom is Dylan, named after the singer Danny admires so much.

If Dylan some day decides he wants to fight, his old man won't talk him out of it. And neither will his mother.

"Boxing has been great to me and my wife, Bonnie, realizes it," Danny says. "She has stood behind me 100 percent all the way. It's hard for people to understand how important she is to me. When I come home from my workout, there is always a nice, hot meal there. My clothes are always clean. And she gives me courage."

In return, Danny has provided all the comforts of home. He has a nice one in the San Gabriel Valley of Southern California. And he says his greatest thrill in boxing—aside from winning the title—was beating his old idol, Ruben Olivares, and buying his first house with his earnings.

"Money is important to me right now because I know I'll have only a few years to make this kind of money," he says. "But it hasn't changed me. At least, I hope it hasn't."

The feather with the punch of steel will get no argument about that.

However, one thing has changed: While he will continue to wear his feathers into the ring, he will no longer wear his featherweight championship belt into the ring.

That he'll have to win back from Salvador Sanchez. And that might take more than mere feathers. That might take a miracle. ■

DANNY LOPEZ

Born: July 6, 1952

1971

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
May 27	Steve Flajole	Los Angeles	KO 1
June 17	Fili Castro	Los Angeles	KO 1
July 9	Mauro Olivares	Los Angeles	KO 1
July 29	Jose Luis Estrada	Los Angeles	KO 2
Aug. 12	Modesto Ortiz	Los Angeles	KO 4
Sept. 16	Rafael Lopez	Los Angeles	KO 5
Oct. 14	Frank Grandos	Los Angeles	KO 2
Nov. 18	Marcarito Rios	Los Angeles	KO 1

1972

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 20	Jose Orantes	Los Angeles	KO 2
Feb. 18	Rafael Lopez	Los Angeles	KO 2
March 10	Arturo Pineda	Los Angeles	KO 4
May 11	Jose Luis Valdovinos	Los Angeles	KO 4
July 20	Benny Rodriguez	Los Angeles	KO 1
July 28	Yoshinodo Goto	Los Angeles	KO 8
Oct. 19	Jorge Reyes	Los Angeles	KO 7

1973

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 9	Jorge Carrasco	Los Angeles	KO 1
March 17	Kenji Endo	Los Angeles	KO 2
May 10	Cesar Ordonez	Los Angeles	KO 6
June 21	Juan Ordonez	Los Angeles	KO 4
July 31	Ushiwakamaru Harada	Honolulu	KO 3
Sept. 27	Goyo Vargas	Los Angeles	KO 1

1974

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 17	Genzo Kuresawa	Los Angeles	W 10
Feb. 3	Memo Rodriguez	Mexicali	KO 10
May 24	Boby Chacon	Los Angeles	KO by 9
Aug. 8	Masao Toyoshima	Los Angeles	KO 3
Sept. 19	Shig Fukuyama	Los Angeles	KO by 9

1975

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 18	Octavio Gomez	Anaheim	L 10
April 24	Chucho Castillo	Los Angeles	KO 2
July 26	Raul Cruz	Los Angeles	KO 6
Sept. 13	Antonio Nava	Los Angeles	KO 6
Dec. 4	Ruben Olivares	Inglewood	KO 7

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 25	Sean O'Grady	Inglewood	KO 4
April 28	Octavio Gomez	Inglewood	KO 3
Aug. 6	Art Hafey	Inglewood	KO 7
Nov. 6	David Kotey (Won WBC Featherweight Title)	Accra, Ghana	W 15

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
July 29	Jose Olivares	San Diego	KO 2
Aug. 28	Jorge Altimirano	Stateline, Nev.	KO 6
Sept. 13	Jose Torres (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 7

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 15	David Kotey (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	Las Vegas	KO 6
April 22	Jose DePaula (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 6
Sept. 15	Juan Malvarez (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	New Orleans	KO 2
Oct. 21	Fel Clemente (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	Pesaro, Italy	W dis 4

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
March 10	Roberto Castanon (Retained WBC Featherweight Title)	Salt Lake City	KO 2
(Won recognition as world featherweight champion by *The Ring*)			
June 17	Mike Ayala (Retained World Featherweight Title)	San Antonio	KO 15
Sept. 25	Jose Caba (Retained World Featherweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 3

1980

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 2	Salvador Sanchez	Phoenix	KO by 13

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
46	42	4	0	39

FORMER W.B.C. FEATHERWEIGHT CHAMPION
DANNY "LITTLE RED"
LOPEZ
... OUR CHOICE FOR THAT DIVISION'S FIGHTER OF THE DECADE HONORS!
the RING READERS
AFTER THAT, IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME!
QUITE OFTEN, IT TOOK A TRIP TO THE CANVAS TO GET THIS SLOW STARTER MOVING.
OH-OH...
THANKS, I NEEDED THAT!
I'D GIVE HALF MY PURSE FOR A BOMB SHELTER!
...FACT IS, 39 OF LITTLE RED'S 42 VICTIMS - INCLUDING 8 STRAIGHT TITLE CHALLENGERS - WERE STOPPED!
...AN INSOMNIAC'S BEST FRIEND!
THE LITTLE BATTLER WENT OUT LIKE A TRUE CHAMPION AGAINST SALVADOR SANCHEZ IN FEBRUARY — STILL ON HIS FEET AND FIGHTING WHEN TKO'ED IN THE 13TH ROUND.
CHARLIE McGILL -1980-

Boxing Commissions —An Endangered Species?

By BARNEY NAGLER

There was a time when boxing commissioners were not so docile and easily lynched. They asserted the rights and powers granted them under the laws of the various states, and for the most part conducted themselves with a measure of efficiency. The commissioners were never noted for grace, clarity, wit and sensitivity. What most of them had, however, was the courage of their complexes. Freud was right up on top in most of their ratings. Some commissioners even were honest.

The commissioners got into trouble when they attempted to be both casual and reasonable at one time. What happened was that they turned out to be farcical instead. This did not do boxing much good, but it did keep the game within respectable bounds — although commissioners were childishly supersensitive to criticism.

Once, when the chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission was a lingerie salesman named John J. Phelan, he heard Jackie Farrell, then a reporter for *The Daily News,* define him as a horse's ass.

Gen. Phelan (he was a major-general in the New York National Guard) sputtered and drew himself up to his full height of six feet. Casting a military eye upon Farrell, who stood five feet in Adler elevator shoes, Gen. Phelan said, "Did you call me a horse's ass?"

"I didn't call you a 'horse's ass,' " Farrell responded, looking Gen. Phelan straight into his hairy chest. "I said you just acted like one."

The setting for this cultural exchange was the boxing commission's chambers in the old Worth Street headquarters, hard by Wall Street, wherein Gen. Phelan had just rejected a request by Mike Jacobs for approval of an exhibition bout involving Joe Louis, the heavyweight champion.

It was the chairman's opinion that because there was no weight limit among the heavyweights, Louis's title would be on the line even in an exhibition bout.

When it was pointed out for the chairman's benefit that other heavyweight champions had engaged in exhibition bouts in Buffalo, in upper New York State, Gen. Phelan established himself an unworthy successor to Mercator, "I don't care what they do in those foreign states," he insisted, whereupon Farrell's metaphor was unleashed.

Phelan is one with the dust now, but if he were with the quick he would have learned long ago that it is no longer possible to ignore those "foreign states." State athletic commissions in the United States have surrendered their rights and powers to alien influences. Both the World Boxing Council and the World Boxing Association hold sway in the fight game and the next whirring sound you hear will be the departed Gen. Phelan whirling and spinning and doing flipflops under the sod.

Recently, Bob Arum, a major purveyor of bouts to the American television networks, had reason to address himself to this matter. "Our commissions," he told an assemblage of journalists in New York, "are disorganized. And in some cases they are mere amateurs. In world boxing councils the Latin Americans prevail through the WBA, while the English and African and European countries prevail through the WBC." Boxing commissions in the United States, he indicated, are out in the cold. As a consequence, American boxing has been weakened.

"Four years ago, with the exception of Muhammad Ali, we didn't hold a major title," Arum said. "Now we are coming back, but it will not be easy. By January, 1981, the promoter predicted, all major championships will be held by Americans."

"What's a major title?" an inquisitive journalist asked; to which Arum replied, "Any title that isn't misnamed a junior or super championship."

The balkanizing of championships is a product of the tricky minds who run both the WBC and the WBA. In their eagerness to spread the gravy — and, encouraged by the TV networks predilection for title bouts — these organizations subverted the traditional divisional aspects of boxing.

Once there were only eight divisions: heavyweight, light heavyweight, middleweight, welterweight, lightweight, featherweight, bantamweight, and flyweight. Now four additional divisions have been created: junior middleweight, junior welterweight, junior lightweight, junior featherweight, or super bantamweight, depending on which organization is doing the naming. Waiting in the wings is the cruiserweight, which will encompass boxers deemed too big for the light heavies and too small for the heavies.

The imagination totters and reels at this seduction of history. Imperious people in the WBA and WBC have little use for tradition; and none at all for order. They go up and down upon the globe creating new divisions willfully, without regard to formality, and boxing commissions in the United States stand by idly while this goes on, although many of them are members of one world organization or another.

No historian has ever set down the exact date when the regulation of boxing slipped from the hands of American commissions. Arum has a theory. He believes it began with the slippage in the boxing program at Madison Square Garden. When the Garden was the core of the boxing universe, the New York State Athletic Commission was the dominant force for good in the sport. In a sense, NY was the conscience of boxing.

Boxing in the Garden is in decline. Only a sense of decency has kept people from writing the arena's obit as a boxing center. As a consequence, the New York boxing board is virtually moribund. Oh, it makes grave noises every now and then, as it did after the death of Willie Classen, but that was the rattle in a dead commission's throat.

It would be foolhardy, as well as erroneous, to accept Arum's theorem in full. Other factors contributed to the decline in the prestige and influence of the New York boxing board.

Subsidence set in when James A. Farley Jr. was indentified as Don King's fellow-traveler during the promoter's ill-conceived American Boxing Championships tournament a few years ago. Farley was asked to resign as chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission by Gov. Hugh Carey when it was disclosed that he had served as King's guide and preceptor during the phony tournament, although most of the shows took place outside the Empire State.

There was a certain irony in this situation, because Farley's father, James A. Farley, long ago had used his position as a member of the New York boxing board to such political and patriotic advantage, he was able to direct Franklin D. Roosevelt on the road to the White House.

Until young Farley's gaucherie, the New York board had conducted itself in a way to suggest that it was "clean." Though, heaven knows, it had made many mistakes of judgment in the past.

Farley was succeeded as chairman by John Prenderville, a former basketball coach at St. Francis College in Brooklyn. Prenderville is an absolutely decent man with an inbred devotion to common sense. When he appeared in our midst it seemed at last that the New York board would straighten up and fly right.

For years it had been the practice of the New York commission to resist any temptation to delegate its powers to other organizations on the premise that it could not convey these powers under law. Prenderville chose to ignore this reasonable position and entered into a quasi-alliance with the WBC to permit that organization to appoint some ringside officials to work at championship bouts in New York State. He insisted that he acted because he hoped such a tenuous alliance would bring title fights to Madison Square Garden.

By doing this, he joined a growing number of American boxing commissions in their rush to concede suzerainity to the WBC and the WBA. In consequence, these organizations, one more than the other, control boxing throughout the world — though some of its members do not have official status in their own communities. The decline of boxing commissions in the United States is complete.

Who Oversees Those Who Oversee Boxing?

Some months ago, when Vito Antuofermo, the only undisputed world champion, was about to defend the middleweight title against Marvin Hagler at Caesars palace in Las Vegas, the Nevada boxing commission conducted its rules meeting not on its own, but in conjunction with the WBA, which has no legal standing in Nevada and works its wonders mysteriously.

Jose Sulaiman is the president of the WBC. He is "one of those regular little roly fat guys," to draw on Hemingway, and so taken with himself, he can strut sitting. He lives in Mexico City, where he must be regarded as a stranger because he is constantly on the prowl, usually as the guest of one promoter or another — here, there and everywhere.

Sulaiman is an autocrat. He hands down WBC edicts from mile-high Mexico City as if he were on Parnassus, extracting sanction fees from Bob Arum and Don King in exchange for his imprimatur on their presentations. There are people who insist that the WBA's larder is a bulging repository of gold, but nobody yet has come forth to explain, much less justify, the acquisition of these inordinate sums.

In point is the aforementioned Antuofermo-Hagler card in Las Vegas. Wilfred Benitez put his WBC welterweight championship on the line that night against Sugar Ray Leonard. Before the WBC, for which read "Sulaiman," would grant permission for these bouts to take place, a sum equal to 1½ per cent of the total purses was extracted from Arum in exchange for the sanction. This came to $12,000. Moreover, the cost of air fares for Sulaiman and his retinue from the points of their origin was defrayed by the promotion. So were Sulaiman's living expenses at Caesars Palace, where he lived regally in an apartment amidst furnishings which would cause the minds of all the Caesars, all 12 of them, to boggle if they were around to behold them. Not even the Marquis of Queensberry had it so good!

People who know about such matters insist that the WBC takes the promoters' money without making a tax accounting to any jurisdiction, American or otherwise. If a set of books is kept by the organization, somebody will have to dredge the Dead Sea for the recovery of Sulaiman's scrolls. After all, he is — by confession — holier than thou.

Both Arum and King must be held to account in large part for the rise of the WBC and, in smaller measure, the WBA, to the detriment of state boxing commissions. Each promoter used the organizations for his own purpose and along the way sold bills of goods to the TV networks.

In this regard, Arum and King were so successful at romancing the networks and the space cadets who run them, none of the three networks, not ABC, not CBS, not NBC, will "buy" a championship fight if it does not have the sanction of either the WBC or the WBA.

Beyond this is the matter of ratings. Each organization draws up its own lists and willy-nilly puts fighters on its list who

could not get arrested for creating a disturbance in a kindergarten.

If King proposes to put some turkey in with Roberto Duran, for example, that turkey's name finds its way into the list of the top 10 in his division, whereupon the promoter goes to the TV network and sells the match on the basis of ratings.

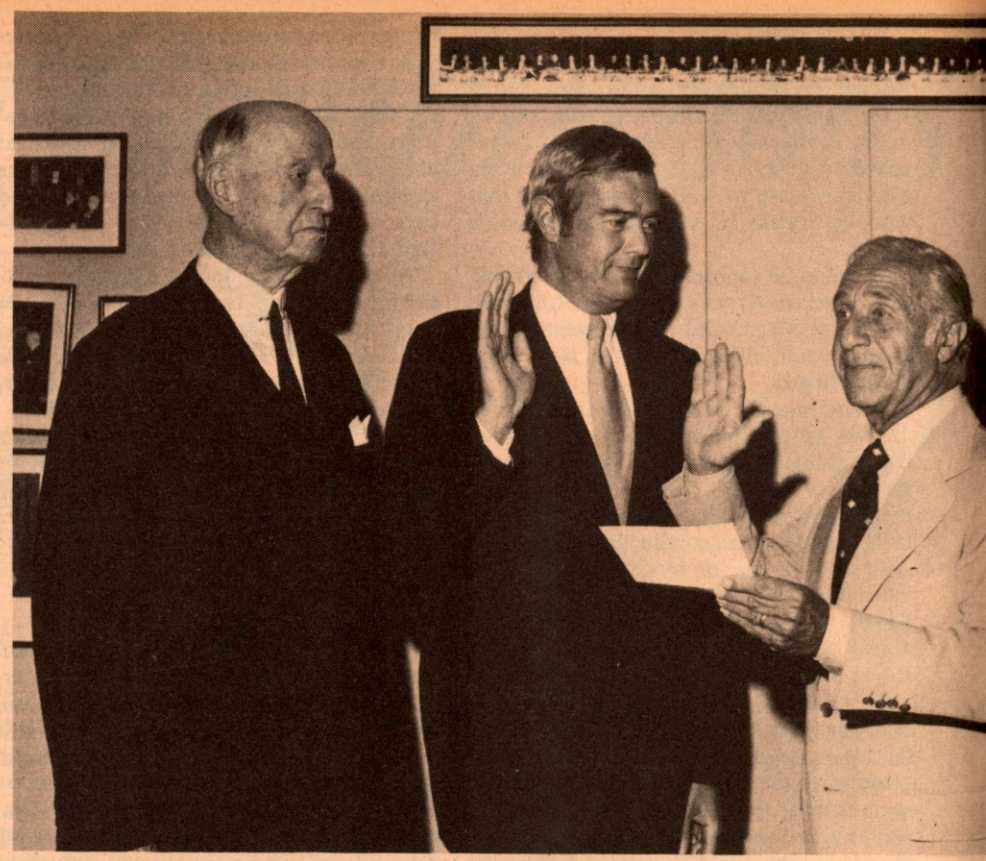
While this is happening, the state boxing commissions stand aside, bowing and scraping in the presence of Sulaiman, who has no standing in law, and none in theory. Only by practicing a sort of freebooting monopoly does the WBC maintain itself.

Nobody in boxing wants to go to law in the matter, largely because of cost of pursuing such an action would be beyond the wildest dreams of avarice. But if Jim Norris' International Boxing Club, which the Federal government branded a monopoly 23 years ago, was guilty of restraint of trade in violation of the Sherman Act, the WBC bears watching.

Bob Arum, head of Top Rank, one of the most successful promoters on the scene to day.

Red Smith called Norris' organization "Octopus, Inc.," long before the Attorney-General in Washington, D.C. was aware of the monopoly, which was rendered asunder eventually because it had "engaged in combination and conspiracy" to control world championship fights.

Not too long ago the WBC, behaving as if it is a formally constitued governmental body, suspended Teddy Brenner, the former matchmaker of Madison Square Garden, until he settled a $25,000 issue with Promoter King. At issue was the matter of the rights of the services of Alexis Arguello, the WBC's junior lightweight champion, who was signed to defend his title against Alfredo Escalera under Brenner's auspices.



The Hon. Sam DeFalco swears in James A. Farley, Jr. as New York Commission chair man. Farley, Sr., the "Grand Old Man," looks on.

WBC president Jose Sulamain, whose very smile would make a chihuahua shiver.

The matter is too arcane to be gone into thoroughly here, nor would full disclosure serve a purpose consistent with this essay. What happened, in essence, was that Brenner was prompted by Sulaiman to give King a check in the amount of $25,000 before he could sell the Arguello-Escalera bout to television.

Brenner fulfilled his obligation to a point — a point at which he learned that King not only would receive $25,000, but would retain three options for Arguello's services *after* the Escalera bout. The day after Arguello defeated Escalera, Brenner stopped payment on the check; Sulaiman suspended him.

Brenner has filed suit. "The long arm of the law will take care of this one," the erstwhile matchmaker said.

It has come to this. But what has become of boxing commissions in the meantime?

Boxing Commissions— An Endang

Don King, the "main man" on the boxing scene.

James D. Norris, head of the International Boxing club, boxing's "czar" during the TV era.

ered Species

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WHO IS LEROY JONES AND WHAT IS HE DOING IN A HEAVY WEIGHT TITLE FIGHT?

By LARRY BORTSTEIN

Leroy Jones has had such a difficult time making a name for himself in the boxing business that even though he is fighting for the heavyweight title he finds someone else trying to muscle in on his name.

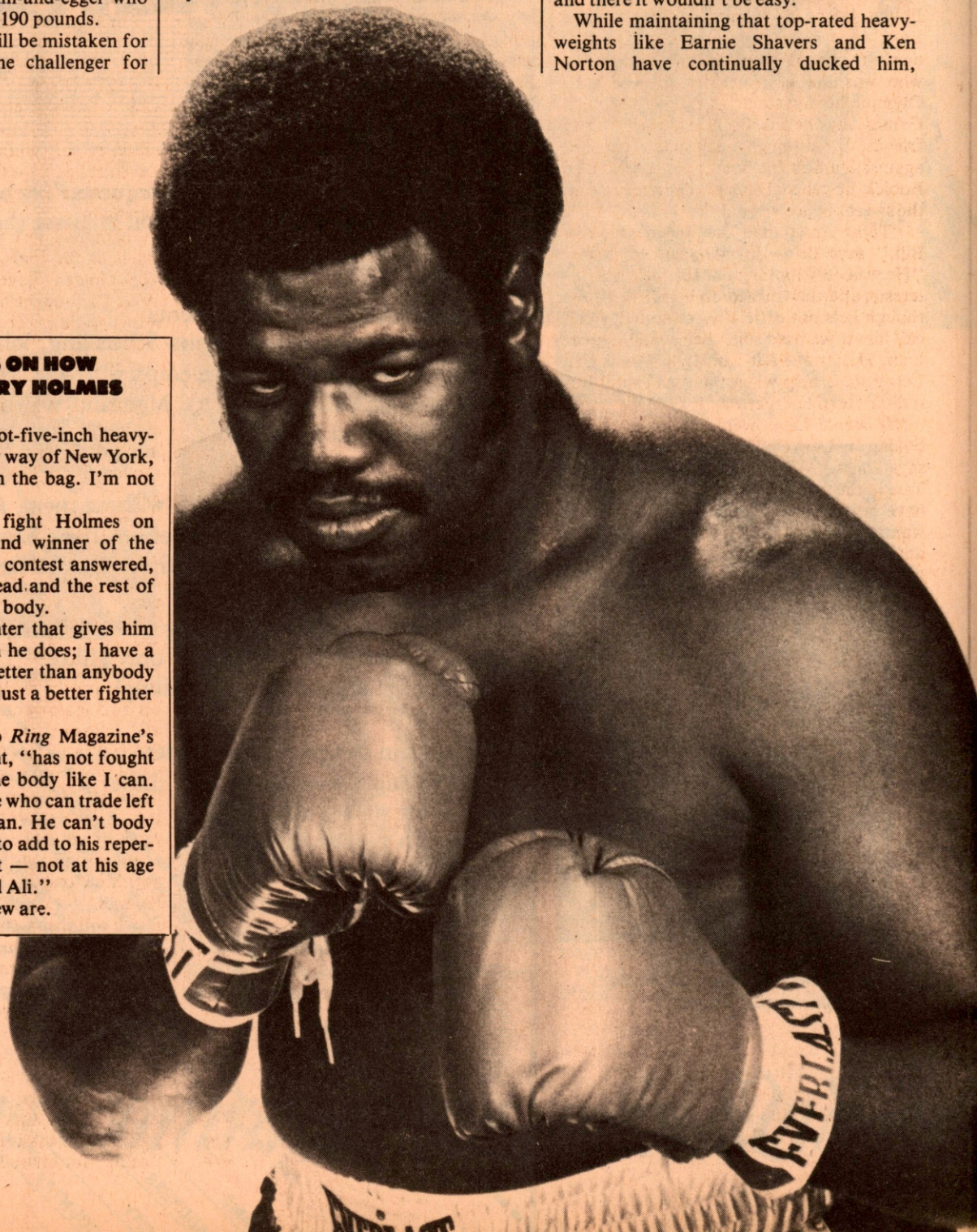
Jones, just turned 30, will carry a 24-0-1 record into the ring against Larry Holmes at Las Vegas' Caesars Palace when they meet for the World Boxing Council version of the heavyweight championship on March 31st.

But records at *The Ring* indicate another heavyweight has been campaigning — with little distinction — in the Southwest under the name Le Roy Jones (note the difference in spelling). The ersatz Jones is, in reality, one Clyde Mudgett, a ham-and-egger who campaigns at around 185-190 pounds.

The real Jones never will be mistaken for the "imposter" since the challenger for Holmes' WBC crown has fought at weights of up to 280 pounds; and probably will enter the ring against Holmes weighing about 240.

"But it figures there'd be another guy out these using the name," smiled the 6-foot-5 Denver fighter when advised he had a namesake. "That's the way my career has gone all along." Jones remembers his first pro fight early in 1973 in Cheyenne — Wyoming's remote capital city but still somewhat of a boxing outpost. "It was against a guy names John Scoggins or something like that," says Jones. "I got $150 for the fight, which I won easily — but the check bounced. I knew right then and there it wouldn't be easy."

While maintaining that top-rated heavyweights like Earnie Shavers and Ken Norton have continually ducked him,



LEROY JONES ON HOW HE'LL BEAT LARRY HOLMES

Leroy Jones, the 6-foot-five-inch heavyweight out of Denver, by way of New York, believes that "Larry's in the bag. I'm not worried."

Asked how he will fight Holmes on March 31, the 248-pound winner of the Buster Mathis lookalike contest answered, "My jab will find his head and the rest of my weapons will find his body.

"I'm the type of fighter that gives him fits. I punch better than he does; I have a better left jab; I move better than anybody he ever fought; and I'm just a better fighter than Larry Holmes."

Holmes, according to *Ring* Magazine's sixth-ranked heavyweight, "has not fought anybody that goes to the body like I can. He has never met anyone who can trade left hands with him like I can. He can't body punch and is still trying to add to his repertoire. But he can't do it — not at his age . . . He's no Muhammad Ali."

But then again, very few are.

Jones remains remarkably free of rancor about the circumstances which have made him a virtual fistic phantom to all but the sport's most knowledgeable insiders.

"I always figured if I stayed out of controversy I'd get the chance I deserved," says Jones. "It was never my style to have a big mouth or to go around yelling and carrying on. I always felt that my results in the ring would create an opportunity, and I figured — even if it took me until I was 60 years old — my opportunity would come."

Still, the soft-spoken Jones allows some untypical negative feelings to emerge when the talk turns to Ron Lyle, Denver's most prominent boxer in recent years. Jones was brought to Denver in late 1972 by trainer Bobby Lewis as a sparring partner for Lyle, then the kingpin of Bill Daniels' newly-formed Denver Boxing Club. Lewis, who was the head trainer for the U.S. Olympic boxing squad at the 1972 Munich Games, says he and Daniels are still "close friends," although lawsuits brought against Daniels by both Lyle and Duane Bobick hastened Daniels' departure from the sweet science.

"Those guys had no business suing Bill," says the wispy 49-year-old Lewis. "He was only looking out for their best interests, and they turned on him. Even now, though he's not officially connected, I can call him if we need some help. He's a great man. He always felt Ron Lyle would give Leroy some help when the time came. But it didn't turn out that way."

"It would have been a great thing for boxing in Denver for me to fight Lyle," says Jones. "This isn't the biggest boxing area in the country, you know, but it could have become a place where name fighters wanted to come. But Lyle felt he didn't owe anybody anything. He turned us down three times."

If Jones is largely unknown to most boxing fans around the world, he is also a mystery figure in his adopted hometown, where he lives with wife Patricia and their young son and daughter. He has fought only three of his 25 pro bouts in Denver, knocking out Lou Rogan in March 1974 and Arthur Robinson in September 1975. His last Denver fight — and most recent — came against the long-washed-up form of James Beattie last August 14, the second feature on the Muhammad Ali-Lyle Alzado "exhibition" card.

The Jones-Beattie set-to, won by Leroy in seven, was not what you would call a classic. Jones was badly out of shape and hardly looked like the same stylish defensive fighter he was reputed to be.

"Leroy needed an operation on his knee at that time," insists Lewis. "He hadn't fought anybody in almost a year and needed some work. Nobody was giving us a fight, so we had to take Beattie."

Seated in the Golden Gloves Gym on the top floor of a 100-year-old firehouse — still used by the Denver Fire Department as a storage center — Jones and Lewis point out that Leroy's awesome size has been a deterrent in his career.

"When I first got him into the New York amateurs, he weighed almost 300 pounds, like Buster Mathis," recalls the trainer. "In fact, people used to call him 'Buster' Jones. But like Mathis, Leroy could fight gracefully for a big man. He had a lot of natural ability for defense. I didn't have to teach him much of that. I only needed to show him how to use his power in the right way. One of those ways was to lose a lot of the weight. He found out he could be more effective and could keep away from the other guy if he wasn't carrying so much weight.

"But the thing that's hurt him is that he's not a big knockout puncher. People look at a man his size and figure he should be able to take a man out easily. If he were a knockout puncher, he'd have had plenty of chances for television fights by now. Bob Arum said he wasn't a crowd-pleasing fighter. But, hey! He wins fights.

"I'm the first to admit he doesn't have the great shoulder and back strength of the real knockout punchers; guys like Frazier and Shavers. He's has 12 knockouts. But he beats the other guys by throwing a lot of punches and hurting them so that the fights have to be stopped. But he's a beautiful boxer. Always was."

Jones himself admits no one fears any of his punches — individually — "but they know they're going to get punished a lot. I'm prepared to go 15 rounds. And by the time I'm through with Holmes, he's gonna be hurting all over."

The fact that Jones is meeting Holmes in the most important fight of his life is ironic. When Duane Bobick came through the 1972 Olympic trials as the designated U.S. heavyweight representative, the American Olympic boxing committee searched for another heavyweight to join the squad as an alternate — and as a sparring partner to help Bobick prepare for the Olympics.

Jones had lost to Bobick in the semi-finals of the trials, but had won the New York Golden Gloves titles in both 1971 and 1972. "I thought he was the best amateur heavyweight prospect around, even then," recalls Lewis. "He may not have made the Olympic team, but he knew more about fighting than anyone else we had, and I thought he'd be a great alternative and sparring partner for Bobick. So I recommended we have Jones on the squad. But the rest of the committee wanted the other guy."

The "other guy" was none other than Larry Holmes and, Lewis recalls, "Bobick knocked him out in one round in one of their exhibition fights before the Olympics."

Now, suddenly, the man who was passed over at the Olympics and whose first check possessed more rubber than his mouthpiece stands on the final threshold of realizing his two major goals — becoming a name and making some money. "I've only made $65,000 in all the fights I've had in seven years," he says. "In this one fight, I should make $150,000. And, of course, as champion, there's probably no limit to the money I can make."

Jones smilingly figures he'll get the recognition long due him when he disposes of Holmes. " 'Losing' isn't in my vocabulary. But I will insist on getting the championship belt this time. When I beat Mike Weaver in 12 rounds two years for the North American heavyweight title, I never got the belt they promised me."

This is the same Weaver who's fighting John Tate March 31 for the World Boxing Association piece of the heavyweight title. It's just another irony in the story of a fighter whose story is studded with ironies; a fighter on the brink of finally making a "name" for himself. ■

LEROY JONES

Born: February 10, 1950

1973

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
July 30	John Scroggins	Cheyenne	KO3

1974

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 10	Larry Frazier	Stateline, Nev.	W 6
Jan. 23	Joe Anderson	Las Vegas	KO 1
Feb. 13	Paul Solomon	Las Vegas	KO 1
March 19	Lou Rogan	Denver	KO 3
June 5	Bob Crutison	Las Vegas	KO 2
July 2	Johnny Gilmore	Las Vegas	W 8
Aug. 26	Henry Culpepper	Las Vegas	W 8
Sept. 24	Koli Vaile	Las Vegas	KO 4
Oct. 18	Chu Hernandez	Stateline	KO 6

1975

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 29	Rico Brooks	Las Vegas	W 10
Feb. 11	Jimmy Gilmore	Honolulu	W 8
March 18	George Johnson	Honolulu	W 10
July 9	Larry Frazier	Las Vegas	W 10
Sept. 13	Arthur Robinson	Denver	KO 2

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
March 3	Jody Ballard	Las Vegas	KO 4
May 13	Mongol Ortiz	Albuquerque	KO 6
July 10	Pedro Lovell	San Diego	D 10

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 22	Roy (Cookie) Wallace	Pensacola	KO 9
March 27	John (Dino) Denis	San Antonio	W 8
Sept. 14	Greg Johnson	Las Vegas	W 10

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Aug. 19	Mike Weaver (Won NABF Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	W 12

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 26	Fili Moala	San Diego	W 10
May 12	Harry Terrell	Las Vegas	W 10
July 14	Jim Beattie	Denver	KO 4

from *The Ring Record Book*

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
25	24	0	1	12

NEW FACES

DERRIK HOLMES

The echo of the opening bell was still in the ears of a national television audience when Wilfredo Gomez was floored by a quick right cross to the chin. He was more stunned than hurt. Regaining his feet, he tore into his opponent, who met him punch-for-punch. Two left hooks to the side and another right to the jaw dropped him again. This time he was more hurt than stunned. Up on spongy legs, Gomez was met by a hail of punches. Moments later, he fell again. The fight was over.

That was nearly six years ago. Nobody knew that the then-amateur Gomez would go on to become an undefeated world champion, a vicious boxer-puncher labeled by many to be the greatest fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world.

Nobody knew, either, that the talented 19-year-old who administered the knockout drops to Gomez — Derrik Holmes — would continue his sensational amateur career, winning 129 out of 139 fights, stopping 75 opponents, and along the way become a six-time national and international champion.

Derrik Holmes was not born to be a fighter. His boxing roots go back to 1967, when, as a 12-year-old in Palmer Park, Maryland, he was mugged and beaten up by two neighborhood bullies. Like the old Charles Atlas ad which depicts the skinny 98-pounder getting revenge for the sand kicked in his face, Holmes swore to get his revenge. He did. He got one of the bullies alone in school and "taught him a lesson." Holmes found his other "friend" in a gym. The youth was the local boxing champion, but that didn't stop Holmes from climbing into the ring and sparring with him. Fighting without skill, but with an overabundance of heart and ferocity, Holmes battered his opponent, forcing him to quit, never to return to the gym again.

Holmes had hoped to represent the United States in the 1976 Olympics at Montreal. However, he had divided himself into too many parts. Besides his daily training routine, he was going to the University of Maryland full-time studying pre-law and working as assistant director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center. His Amoebic-like division led to a loss in the Olympic Trials. It was a loss that shattered Holmes. He stayed away from boxing for the next two years.

After regaining his hunger and taste for boxing, Holmes turned pro in June 1978, halting Jimmy Jones in the fourth round. Since that time, he has fought 11 times, winning 10 (seven by knockout) and drawing against talented veteran Gerald Hayes.

Holmes, who is trained by former middleweight contender George Benton, is managed by businessman Brent Molovinsky and a group of partners who call themselves "Keystone Sports, Inc."

"We are like family," said Holmes. "They all have played a major role in my boxing career. It'll all pay off when I win a world title."

Holmes, who lives with his mother and brother, likes to relax by playing chess. He is also an accomplished photographer and a talented tennis player.

"I give 100 per cent of myself in everything I do," said Holmes after his recent second-round demolition of veteran Livio Nolasco in Atlantic City.

"I want that title and I intend to get it. Nobody can stand in my way. Not Wilfredo Gomez. Not any bantamweight. Nobody!"

The first year of this new decade may not yet be over before the fighter with the first name of Derrik brings a world championship "Holmes, Sweet Holmes."

DERRIK HOLMES

Height: 5'7" **Born:** August 23, 1955
Weight: 122 pounds
Amateur Record: 129-10, 75 knockouts

1978

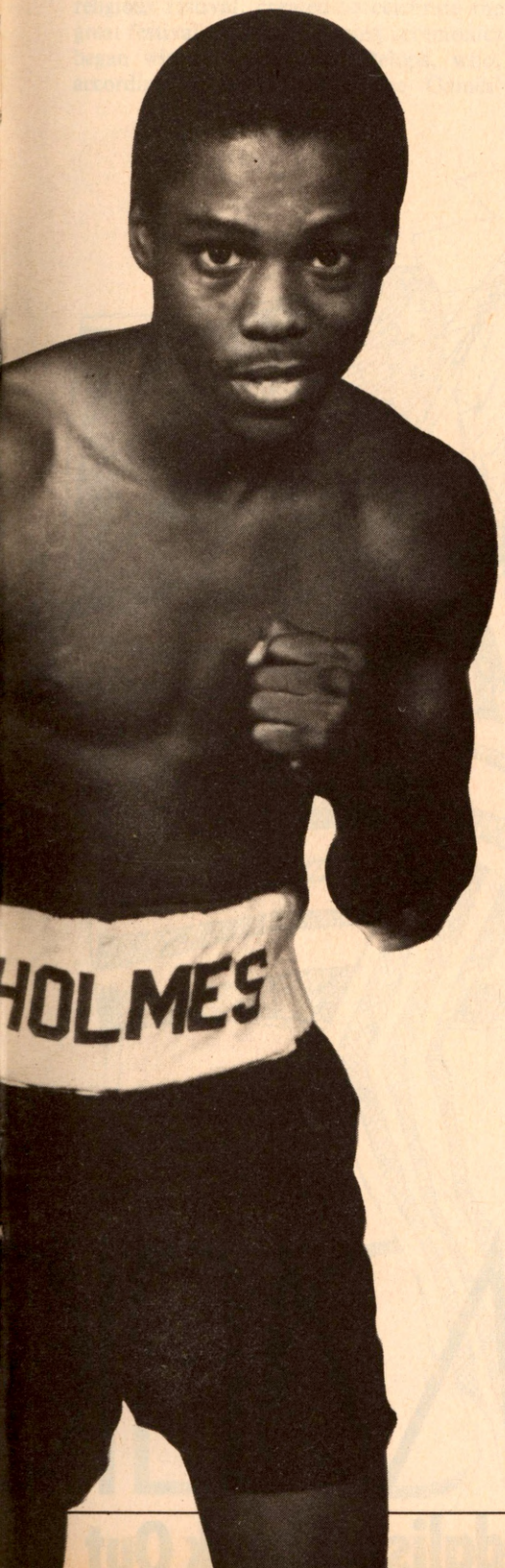
DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
June 28	Jimmy Jones	Washington, D.C.	KO 4
Nov. 17	Robert Matos	Washington, D.C.	W 6

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 11	Tony Hernandez	Landover, Md.	KO 6
Jan. 22	Roudell Stevenson	Washington, D.C.	KO 2
Apr. 6	Ronnie Newby	Washington, D.C.	KO 1
Apr. 20	Juan Marquez	New York	W 6
May 23	Felix Rodriguez	Washington, D.C.	KO 2
May 31	Bruce Haynes	Philadelphia	KO 1
July 24	Fernando Martinez	Atlantic City	KO 1
Aug. 7	Gerald Hayes	Atlantic City	D 8
Oct. 24	Leo Lopez	Baltimore	W 10
Dec. 12	Earl Large	Washington, D.C.	KO 3

1980

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 12	Livio Nolasco	Atlantic City	KO 2



ROCKY FRATTO

To the people of Syracuse, it doesn't matter if Rocky Fratto ever wins a world boxing title. Because, to them, the 21-year-old Fratto already is a champion.

The handsome, moustachioed, wavy-haired Fratto is among the most popular athletes ever to reside in the area, including boxing titleholders Carmen Basilio and Billy Backus, as well as football standouts Jim Brown and Floyd Little.

The young boxing phenomenon was born Ralph Fratto Jr. on October 29, 1958 — seven months after Basilio had lost his title to Ray Robinson via a 15-round decision. Growing up, Fratto was surrounded by boxing. His father, Ralph Sr., trained the amateur fighters in the Syracuse area, and promoted many of his own shows. Young Ralph often asked his father to let him fight, but a gentle hand on the shoulder and a firm "NO!" kept him out of the ring.

Young Fratto was relentless, however, and kept pressure on his father to allow him to box. Finally, on a night when many of his amateur proteges were being trounced in a local amateur meet, Fratto Sr. relented, allowing his 12-year-old son to compete against other boys his own age.

"The only reason I let him fight was to teach him a lesson and shut him up," recalled Fratto Sr.

In his initial amateur bout, Fratto won an easy decision and the award as the night's best fighter.

After winning three upstate New York titles, by which time he had been nicknamed "Rocky" by former welterweight Cliff Hart, Fratto joined the United States Army in 1976. He continued his amateur career in the service, becoming All-Army Champ and All-Service Champ. Invited to the 1976 Olympic Trials, he suffered a morale-shattering defeat to Clinton Jackson, a former "New Face" who is unbeaten as a professional. The loss to Jackson was only the third of Fratto's 76-fight amateur career.

Discouraged by his loss, Fratto gave up all hope of making the 1980 team and turned professional in November of 1976 under the guidance of his father and veteran boxing manager Tony Graziano. He also took on the knowledgeable Billy Harris as his trainer.

The move to turn professional has paid off. Handsomely. Fighting all his bouts in the upstate New York area, Fratto has been attracting record crowds, as well as building an impressive record over an array of talented, if not world class, fighters. One of those talented opponents was Everaldo Costa Azevedo, whom Fratto easily decisioned over 10 rounds in December 1978.

"Rocky is getting better every fight," said his father. "He is always in top shape and getting smarter every fight. I think he is ready to step in against any world-rated junior middleweight, and, if not beat them, give them one heckuva fight. Remember, Rocky only recently turned 21."

Fratto has a style many fans compare to that of former middleweight king Nino Benvenuti. He also owns a vast arsenal of punches to back up his superb left jab. Those qualities, along with an excellent defense, superb physical conditioning, the will to punish himself in training and a rugged, yet boyishly handsome face all add up to one thing: A potential world champion with box office appeal.

ROCKY FRATTO

Height: 5'9" **Weight:** 154 pounds
Born: October 29, 1958
Amateur Record: 73-3, 26 knockouts

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Nov. 20	Joe Grady	Utica	W 6

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 21	Lorenzo Howard	Rochester	KO 2
Apr. 8	Johnny Taylor	Syracuse	KO 2
June 3	D.C. Walker	Syracuse	W 8
July 8	Al Romano	Geneva	W 8
Aug. 25	Ray Bryant	Syracuse	W 8
Oct. 8	Renaldo Oliviera	Geneva	W 10
Nov. 19	Ricky Burgess	Syracuse	KO 3

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 25	Tyrone Phelps	Syracuse	W 10
July 15	Pablo Rodriguez	Alexandria Bay	W 10
Aug. 12	Justice Ortiz	Alexandria Bay	W 10
Oct. 4	Pablo Rodriguez	Elmira	KO 4
Dec. 8	Everaldo Costa Azevedo	Syracuse	W 10

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 17	Steve Michalerya	Elmira	W 10
Apr. 14	Beau Jaynes	Syracuse	KO 7
June 2	Sammy Masias	Syracuse	W 10
July 13	Pat Murphy	Rochester	KO 7
Oct. 26	Steve Michalerya	Rochester	W 10

1980

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 19	Jaime Rodriguez	Syracuse	W 10

Summary

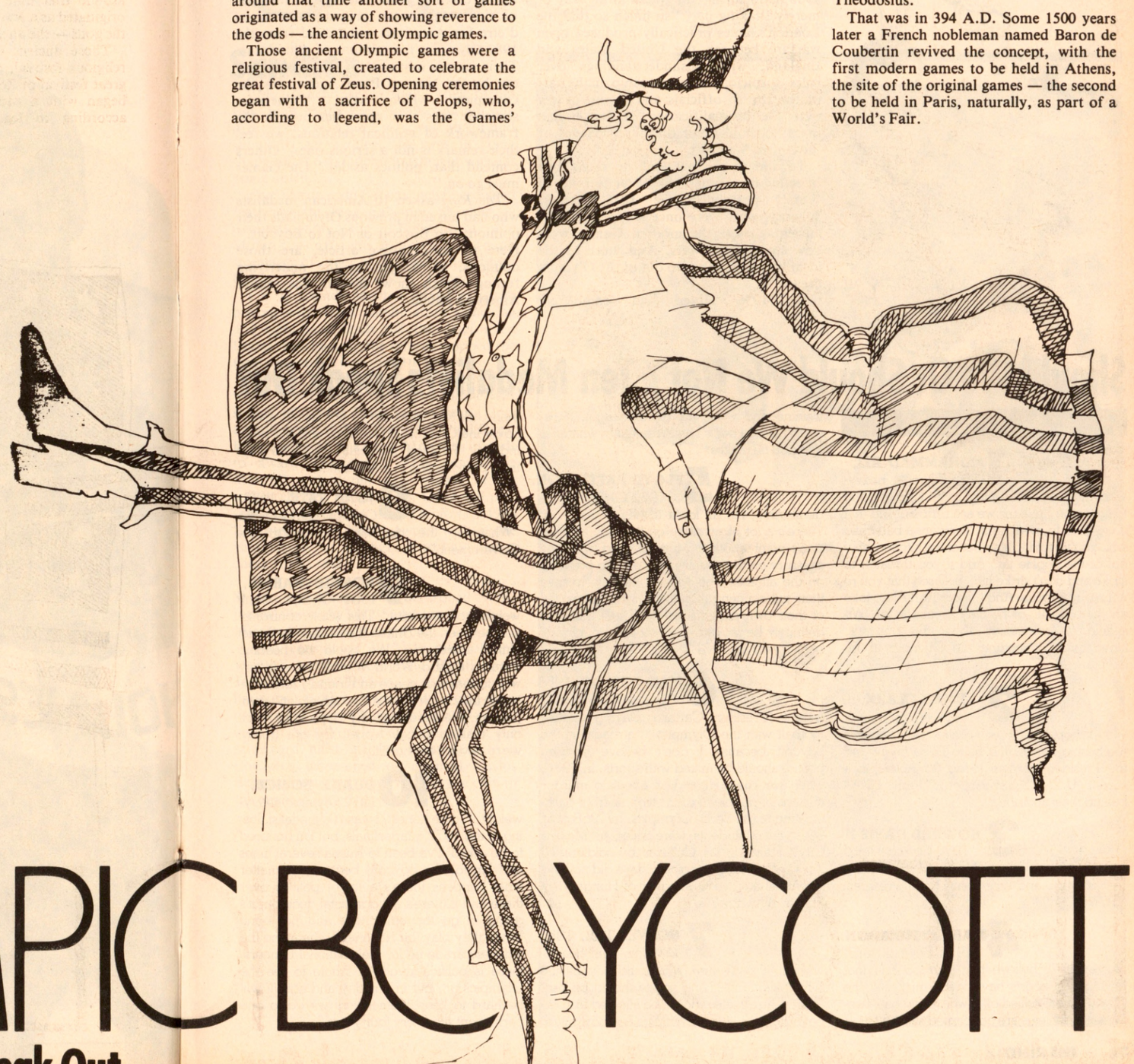
BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
19	19	0	0	6

Sports and games of one sort or another are undoubtedly as old as humanity. But they have always been associated with something or other. In Homer's *Iliad* Achilles celebrated the burial of his dear friend Patroclus not only with religious observances but also with such athletic contests as racing, boxing and spear casting. That was about 1200 B.C., and around that time another sort of games originated as a way of showing reverence to the gods — the ancient Olympic games.

Those ancient Olympic games were a religious festival, created to celebrate the great festival of Zeus. Opening ceremonies began with a sacrifice of Pelops, who, according to legend, was the Games' founder. They became so important that during the Games all warring among Greek city-states was suspended for a month so that all wishing to attend could do so in peace.

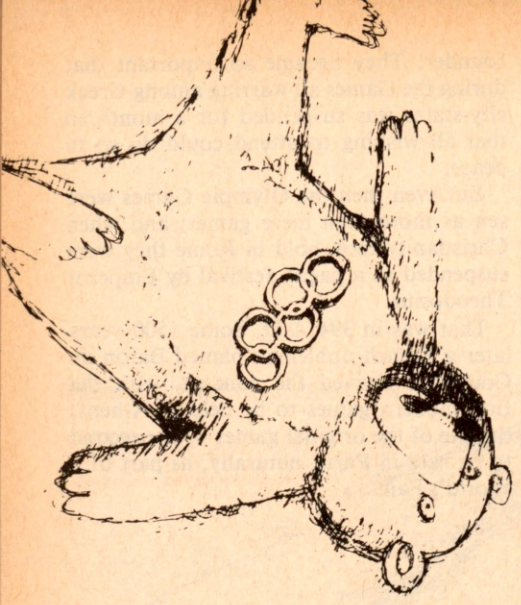
But even then the Olympic Games were sen as more than mere games; and when Christianity took hold in Rome they were suspended as a pagan festival by Emperor Theodosius.

That was in 394 A.D. Some 1500 years later a French nobleman named Baron de Coubertin revived the concept, with the first modern games to be held in Athens, the site of the original games — the second to be held in Paris, naturally, as part of a World's Fair.



THE OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

Should We Or Should We Not? Ten Medalists Speak Out



But, despite de Coubertin's high-sounding creed, which held, in part, that "The most important thing . . . is not to win but to take part," the Olympics began quickly to stress winning. And more.

In the very first Olympiad in 1896, King Constantine of Greece joined in the celebration by running around the track after Greece's only gold medal winner. By 1908 nationalism had gotten in the way of merely "taking part" so much so that the London Games practically produced open warfare between the United States and England, with misunderstandings over rules, suspicions of partisanship on the part of the British officials and a controversy over the disqualification of the Italian marathoner in favor of Johnny Hayes of the United States.

To add to the nationalistic tinge then infecting the Games, the "War to End All Wars" postponed the 1916 Games. Whereas wars were once stopped for the ancient games, the modern Games were now stopped for wars. And more of the idealism seemed to seep out of the Olympic dream.

By 1936 Hitler had completely prostituted any idealism left by converting the entire Olympiad into a tribute to Aryan superiority. And the 1972 massacre of 11 innocent athletes gave the final evidence that the Games were unmistakably and tragically intertwined in politics.

Now the 1980 Moscow Games are upon us and the time-honored question of whether they are political or not has once again reared its head. The Russian invasion of tiny Afghanistan provides the raison d'etre for American withdrawal from the 1980 Olympics for millions of Americans. Their view is mirrored by the booklet put out by the Novosti Press Agency for the Olympics, which says, "Whenever someone says that sport lies outside the framework of political relations, we feel their remark is not a serious one." Others contend that, politics aside, "The Games must go on."

The Ring asked 10 American medalists who had boxed in previous Olympiads their opinion: "to Boycott or Not to Boycott." Here in an exclusive article, are those opinions, as diverse as the underlying feeling which now divides the entire American public.

Should We Or Should We Not? Ten Medalists Speak Out

1 MUHAMMAD ALI, 1960 Olympic heavyweight: "We should make some kind of stand to show the Russians we are serious. And that if we have to, we'll fight. They are a bad child who you've told to stay out of the kitchen, stay out of the cookie jar. And if you threaten to strike and don't strike him, he'll see that you're not really serious. And tomorrow he'll go take another cookie; or he may break the jar. We should do something about the Russians. Now. Even boycotting the Olympics if we have to."

2 JIMMY CLARK, 1980 Olympic heavyweight hopeful: "It would have been against the best wishes of the State Department and the President for me to go (to Russia in a recent U.S.-U.S.S.R. meet). I am 100% behind their decision."

3 HOWARD DAVIS JR. 1976 Olympic lightweight gold medalist: "It's the best move for the country and I'm behind the President 100%."

4 MARVIN JOHNSON, 1972 Olympic middleweight: "I believe that it is too bad that politics and sports have to be mixed. If the Olympics are called off it will be too bad insofar as the athletes are concerned since all their training and work will go to naught. However, I would back The President in whatever decision he makes."

5 FLOYD PATTERSON, 1952 Olympic middleweight: "I'm all for it if they can moe it. There's a lot of pressure on the U.S. and we don't want another Munich. And with the pressure on the country, there's also pressure on the athletes who will not be able to give their full concentration to performing, fearful of their own personal safety. I feel it should definitely be moved — to another country or back a year, to 1981."

6 JOSE TORRES, 1956 Olympic light middleweight: "President Carter is playing political football with the Olympics. I am against the boycott because I don't believe partisan politics should be mixed with sports. In 1936, when we knew Hitler was about to murder millions of people, it didn't stop us from participating in the Berlin Olympics. In 1968 over 300 young students were killed in Mexico City's Plaza de las Culturas by soldiers 10 days before the Olympics and we did nothing to protest the brutal takeover of Hungary by Russia. Why now?"

7 NORVEL LEE, 1952 Olympic light heavyweight: "I don't think we should boycott the Olympics. Politics and sports should be kept apart. The athletes should be allowed to compete. Further, if the Olympics are boycotted, then U.S. television should not be allowed to cover the Olympics in Moscow and any other industry involved financially must be kept from participating in any manner."

8 JOHN TATE, 1976 Olympic heavyweight: "Whatever the decision, I support the Government."

9 RONNIE HARRIS, 1968 Olympic lightweight gold medalist: "This whole confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union scares me. We could be heading towards a third World War. If there is any way to maintain peace and friendly terms between the countries, it is through athletic competition. We should go. By boycotting we're only making things worse. By not going, we're developing hostility."

10 DUANE BOBICK, 1972 Olympic heavyweight: "To be honest, I wasn't a medalist, losing in the 1972 quarterfinals, but I'm honored to be asked. I've been to Russia several times and I'm for the boycott, because no matter what happens there's a lot of politics over there and if there's a judgmental decision, it's going to go the other way and not ours. When they play the National Anthem and the athletes parade under their national banners, there is politics involved. I hate to see the Olympics go, but in our day and age, it will be hard to keep them unless we go to one permanent site every four years."

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

SPONSORED BY

SASSON jeans inc

PAUL GUEZ, PRESIDENT.

Sanchez

"My corner insisted that I stick to my fight plan, that I keep boxing and not mix it up. They told me I was way ahead and shouldn't get careless. He was in some shape to take so much punishment without going down."

The words came from newly-crowned featherweight king Salvador Sanchez — unquestionably the "Fighter of the Month" — after his stunning 13th-round stoppage of one of boxing's best-loved fighters, Danny "Little Red" Lopez.

For 12 rounds Sanchez mixed exquisite boxing with crisp combination punching and right-hand leads off the determined Lopez' head before the referee stopped the fight 51 seconds into the 13th round.

Sanchez' victory earned him not only the world featherweight crown, but a one year supply of clothes from Sasson Jeans, Inc, compliments of their President, Paul Guez. Beginning with this issue, Mr. Guez intends to award *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Month" with a one year supply of his stylish clothes. In addition, Guez will present the fighter who wins *The Ring's* 1980 "Fighter of the Year" award with a one year supply of clothes, a trophy and a check for $5,000.

This month's runner-up is Japan's Shigeo Nakajima, who dethroned WBC junior flyweight king Sung-Jun Kim via a 15-round unanimous decision.

Also considered for "Fighter of the Month" honors were Pete Padilla and John LoCicero. Padilla, a six-round preliminary fighter, outboxed world-class lightweight Marco Barahona in a 10-round bout in New York's Felt Forum. On the same card, hard-hitting middleweight John LoCicero dispatched of talented Carlos Betancourt with a single right to the chin in the opening round.

THE RING'S WORLD RATINGS

(AS OF FEBRUARY 9, 1980)
***WBA champion ****WBC champion**

HEAVYWEIGHTS: Leon Spinks' fifth-round knockout of Alfredo Evangelista moves him back into the top 10. Unbeaten Michael Dokes moves to seventh with a first-round knockout victory against Earl Tripp.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS: No changes

MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Hugo Corro, inactive since losing his title to Vito Antuofermo, drops to fourth. Ronnie Harris, a recent knockout victor, moves to second ahead of Alan Minter, whom he holds a 1977 knockout victory over.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Despite the fact Nick Ortiz was disqualified in his most recent fight—for biting Steve Delgado—he retains his world rating.

WELTERWEIGHTS: Randy Shields moves ahead of Joseph Nsubuga, knockout loser to Roberto Duran.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS: WBC titleholder Sang-Hyun Kim moves to number one, ahead of Joe Kimpuani.

LIGHTWEIGHTS: Howard Davis Jr. moves to five, ahead of Johnny Lira.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS: No changes

FEATHERWEIGHTS: Dethroned titleholder Danny Lopez falls to two, behind WBA champion Eusebio Pedroza.

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS: Javier Flores falls to eighth after being stopped by bantamweight Jeff Chandler.

BANTAMWEIGHTS: Undefeated Jeff Chandler moves to fifth after an impressive 10th-round knockout against world-class junior featherweight Javier Flores.

FLYWEIGHTS: Shigeo Nakajima becomes the third-rated contender — and WBC Junior Flyweight Champion — with a 15-round decision against Sung-Jun Kim.

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(over 175 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1 **Larry Holmes****. . . . . Easton, Pa.
2 **John Tate***. . . . . Knoxville, Tenn.
3 **Gerrie Coetzee** . . . . . South Africa
4 **Mike Weaver** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
5 **Earnie Shavers** . . . . . Warren, Ohio
6 **Leroy Jones** . . . . . Denver, Colo.
7 **Leon Spinks** . . . . . St. Louis, Mo.
8 **Michael Dokes** . . . . . Akron, Ohio
9 **Gerry Cooney** . . . . . Huntington, N.Y.
10 **Scott LeDoux** . . . . . Minneapolis, Minn.

WELTERWEIGHTS
(not over 147 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
RAY LEONARD** . . . . . **Palmer Park, Md.**
1 **Wilfred Benitez** . . . . . Puerto Rico
2 **Jose (Pipino) Cuevas*** . . . . . Mexico
3 **Roberto Duran** . . . . . Panama
4 **Thomas Hearns** . . . . . Detroit, Mich.
5 **Jorgen Hansen** . . . . . Denmark
6 **Pete Ranzany** . . . . . Sacramento, Cal.
7 **Angel Espada** . . . . . Puerto Rico
8 **David Green** . . . . . England
9 **Randy Shields** . . . . . N. Hollywood, Cal.
10 **Joseph Nsubuga** . . . . . Uganda

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(not over 126 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
SALVADOR SANCHEZ** . . . . . Mexico
1 **Eusebio Pedroza*** . . . . . Panama
2 **Danny Lopez** . . . . . Alhambra, Calif.
3 **Reuben Castillo** . . . . . Bakersfield, Cal.
4 **Roberto Castanon** . . . . . Spain
5 **Mike Ayala** . . . . . San Antonio, Texas
6 **Eddie Ndukwu** . . . . . Nigeria
7 **Juan Malvarez** . . . . . Argentina
8 **Hector Carrasquilla** . . . . . Panama
9 **Rolando Navarette** . . . . . Philippines

RING RATINGS 25 YEARS AGO

From the April, 1955 issue of *The Ring*

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champion
Rocky Marciano, Brockton, Mass.
1. Nino Valdes, Cuba
2. Dan Cockell, England
3. Bob Baker, Pittsburgh
4. Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati
5. Earl Walls, Canada
6. Rex Layne, Lewiston, Utah
7. Tommy Jackson, Far Rockaway
8. Heinz Neuhaus, Germany
9. Charley Norkus, Jersey City
10. Jimmy Slade, New York

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champion
Archie Moore, San Diego, Calif.
1. Joey Maxim, Cleveland
2. Harold Johnson, Philadelphia
3. Floyd Patterson, Brooklyn
4. Gerhard Hecht, Germany
5. Paul Andrews, Buffalo
6. Yolande Pompey, Trinidad
7. Billy Smith, Atlantic City
8. Marty Marshall, Detroit
9. Willie Hoepner, Germany
10. Bob Satterfield, Chicago

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champion
Carl (Bobo) Olson, Honolulu
1. Joey Giardello, Philadelphia
2. Rocky Castellani, Cleveland
3. Holly Mims, Washington, D.C.
4. Charley Humez, France
5. Pierre Langlois, France
6. Tiberio Mitri, Italy
7. Bobby Jones, Oakland, Calif.
8. Gustav Scholz, Germany
9. Ronnie Delaney, Akron
10. Willie Troy, Washington, D.C.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

(not over 175 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION Matthew Muhammad (Matthew Franklin)** . . . . Philadelphia, Pa.

1. **Marvin Johnson*** . . . . Indianapolis, Ind.
2. **James Scott** . . . . . Rahway, N.J.
3. **John Conteh** . . . . . England
4. **Victor Galindez** . . . . . Argentina
5. **Alvaro (Yaqui) Lopez** . . . . Stockton, Cal.
6. **Eddie Gregory** . . . . . Brooklyn, N.Y.
7. **Lotte Mwale** . . . . . Zambia
8. **Mustapha Wasajja** . . . . . Denmark
9. **Mike Rossman** . . . . . Turnersville, N.J.
10. **Rudi Koopmans** . . . . . Holland

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

(not over 160 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

VITO ANTUOFERMO . . . . . Italy

1. **Marvin Hagler** . . . . . Brockton, Mass.
2. **Ronnie Harris** . . . . . Akron, Ohio
3. **Alan Minter** . . . . . England
4. **Hugo Corro** . . . . . Argentina
5. **Curtis Parker** . . . . . Philadelphia, Pa.
6. **Loucif Hamani** . . . . . Algeria
7. **Mustafa Hamsho** . . . . . Syria
8. **Mike Colbert** . . . . . Portland, Ore.
9. **Kevin Finnegan** . . . . . England
10. **Tony Sibson** . . . . . England

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS

(not over 154 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

AYUB KALULE* . . . . . Uganda

1. **Maurice Hope**** . . . . . England
2. **Masashi Kudo** . . . . . Japan
3. **Rocky Mattioli** . . . . . Australia
4. **Tony Chiaverini** . . . . . Kansas City, Mo.
5. **Kenny Bristol** . . . . . Guyana
6. **Nick Ortiz** . . . . . Puerto Rico
7. **Rocky Mosley, Jr.** . . . . . Las Vegas, Nev.
8. **Sandy Torres** . . . . . Puerto Rico
9. **Marijan Benes** . . . . . Yugoslavia
10. **Andoni Amana** . . . . . Spain

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS

(not over 140 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO CERVANTES* . . . . . Colombia

1. **Sang-Hyun Kim**** . . . . . Korea
2. **Joe Kimpuani** . . . . . Zaire
3. **Saoul Mamby** . . . . . New York, N.Y.
4. **Miguel Montilla** . . . . . Dominican Rep.
5. **Esteban DeJesus** . . . . . Puerto Rico
6. **Lennox Blackmoore** . . . . . Guyana
7. **Teo Ozuna** . . . . . Dominican Republic
8. **Bruce Curry** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
9. **Juan Jose Gimenez** . . . . . Spain
10. **Hugo Luero** . . . . . Argentina

LIGHTWEIGHTS

(not over 135 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Ernesto Espana*** . . . . . Venezuela
2. **Jim Watt**** . . . . . Scotland
3. **Claude Noel** . . . . . Trinidad, W.I.
4. **Julio (Diablito) Valdez** . . . Dominican Rep.
5. **Howard Davis** . . . . . Glen Cove, N.Y.
6. **Johnny Lira** . . . . . Chicago, Ill.
7. **Vilomar Fernandez** . . . . Dominican Rep.
8. **Aaron Pryor** . . . . . Cincinnati, Ohio
9. **Hilmer Kenty** . . . . . Detroit, Mich.
10. **Jorge Morales** . . . . . Puerto Rico

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS

(not over 130 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

SAMUEL SERRANO* . . . . . Puerto Rico

1. **Alexis Arguello**** . . . . . Nicaragua
2. **Frankie Baltazar** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
3. **Bobby Chacon** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
4. **Rafael (Bazooka) Limon** . . . . . Mexico
5. **Rodolfo Sanchez** . . . . . Spain
6. **Victor Echegaray** . . . . . Argentina
7. **Roberto Elizondo** . . . Corpus Christi, Tex.
8. **Greg Coverson** . . . . . Columbus, Ohio
9. **Oscar Arnal** . . . . . Venezuela
10. **Reynaldo Hidalgo** . . . . . Panama

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS

(not over 122 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

WILFREDO GOMEZ** . . . . . Puerto Rico

1. **Ricardo Cardona*** . . . . . Colombia
2. **Juan (Kid) Meza** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
3. **Nicky Perez** . . . . . Tucson, Ariz.
4. **Jose Caba** . . . . . Dominican Rep.
5. **Soon-Hyun Chung** . . . . . Korea
6. **Sergio Palma** . . . . . Argentina
7. **Leo Cruz** . . . . . Dominican Rep.
8. **Javier Flores** . . . . . Salt Lake City
9. **Hiroyuki Iwamote** . . . . . Japan
10. **Shuchi Isogami** . . . . . Japan

BANTAMWEIGHTS

(not over 118 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

JORGE LUJAN* . . . . . Panama

1. **Lupe Pintor**** . . . . . Mexico
2. **Carlos Zarate** . . . . . Mexico
3. **Alberto Davila** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
4. **Roberto Rubaldino** . . . . . Mexico
5. **Jeff Chandler** . . . . . Philadelphia, Pa.
6. **Leo Randolph** . . . . . Tacoma,Wash
7. **Oscar Muniz** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
8. **Eddie Logan** . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
9. **Juan F. Rodriguez** . . . . . Spain
10. **Ricardo Bennett** . . . . . Panama

FLYWEIGHTS

(not over 112 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION

CHAN-HEE PARK** . . . . . Korea

1. **Yoko Gushiken** . . . . . Japan
2. **Luis Ibarra*** . . . . . Panama
3. **Shigeo Nakajima** . . . . . Japan
4. **Sung-Jun Kim** . . . . . Korea
5. **Betulio Gonzalez** . . . . . Venezuela
6. **Guty Espadas** . . . . . Mexico
7. **Charlie Magri** . . . . . England
8. **Joey Olivo** . . . . . Los Angeles
9. **Netrnoi Vorasingh** . . . . . Thailand
10. **Rey Melendez** . . . . . Dominican Republic

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champion
Johnny Saxton, Brooklyn

1. Carmen Basilio, Syracuse
2. Kid Gavilan, Cuba
3. Vince Martinez, Paterson, N.J.
4. Tony DeMarco, Boston
5. Ramon Fuentes, Los Angeles
6. Freddy Dawson, Chicago
7. Maurice Harper, Oakland
8. Del Flanagan, St. Paul
9. Hector Constance, Trinidad
10. Wally Thom, England

LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champion
James Carter, New York, N.Y.

1. Duilio Loi, Italy
2. Ralph Dupas, New Orleans
3. Frankie Ryff, New York
4. Paddy DeMarco, Brooklyn
5. Wallace (Bud) Smith, Cincinnati
6. Johnny Gonsalves, Oakland
7. Seraphin Ferrer, France
8. Richie Howard, Canada
9. Cisco Andrade, Compton, Calif.
10. Orlando Zulueta, Cuba

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champion
Sandy Saddler, (U.S. Army)

1. Teddy Davis, Hartford
2. Percy Bassett, Philadelphia
3. Ray Famechon, France
4. Ciro Morasen, Cuba
5. Hogan (Kid) Bassey, Nigeria
6. Jean Sneyers, Belgium
7. Rudy Garcia, Los Angeles
8. Billy Kelly, Ireland
9. Bobby Bell, Youngstown
10. Orlando Echevarria, Cuba

BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champion
Jimmy Carruthers, Australia

1. Raton Macias, Mexico
2. Mario D'Agata, Italy
3. Chamrern Songkitrat, Thailand
4. Willie Toweel, South Africa
5. Pierre Cossemyns, Belgium
6. Peter Keenan, Scotland
7. Andre Valignat, France
8. Bobby Sinn, Australia
9. Hilaire Pratesi, France
10. Billy Peacock, Los Angeles

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champion
Pascual Perez, Argentina

1. Yoshio Shirai, Japan
2. Leo Espinosa, Philippines
3. Dai Dower, Wales
4. Nazzareno Gianelli, Italy
5. Danny Kid, Philippines
6. Tanny Campo, Philippines
7. Eric Marsden, England
8. Jake Tuli, South Africa
9. Oscar Suarez, Cuba
10. Antonio Diaz II, Spain

FIGHT OF THE MONTH
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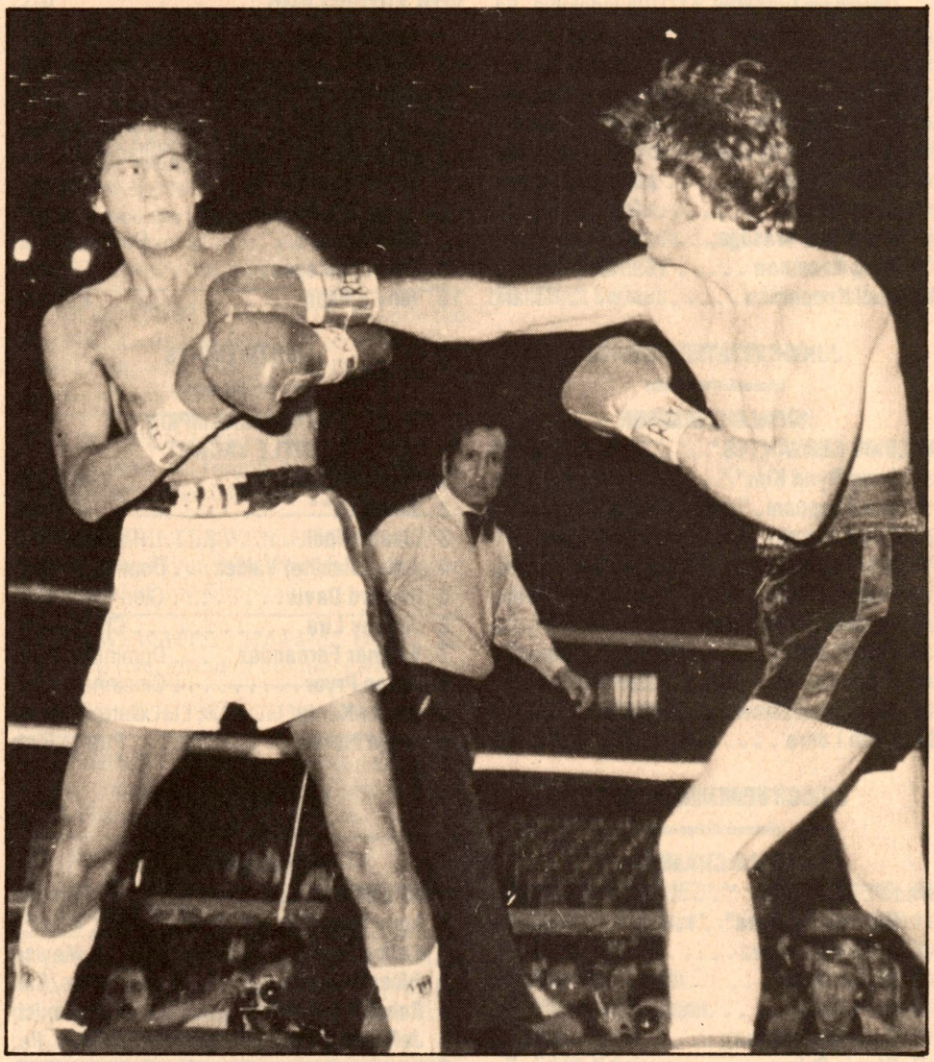
Sanchez-Lopez

World Featherweight Title



PHOENIX, ARIZONA — Lightly regarded Salvador Sanchez of Mexico City knocked the WBC featherweight crown off the head of Danny "Little Red" Lopez with a savage 13-round beating. That Sanchez came into this bout with a record of 32-1-1 meant little or nothing to the general media, who billed Lopez' ninth title defense as one between "Little Red" versus little known. Little did we know that "Little Known" Sanchez was one helluva fighter. And Danny Lopez was soon to find out just how good Sanchez was, the hard way.

The red-headed Ute Indian, who currently resides in Alhambra, California, is known for being a slow starter. So, when Sanchez opened the bout landing lefts and rights, nobody panicked. After all, Danny was landing his best punch, a left jaw to the right glove. Indeed, such "little knowns" as Kenji Endo, Yoshi Goto, Genzo Kurosawa, and Jose Torres, just to name a few, have sent Danny to the canvas. Anyone can be knocked down, but what separates the men from the boys are the people *who get up*. Danny Lopez usually gets up and punishes his opponent for his insubordination by knocking him out. In this nationally televised bout against Sanchez, Danny not only didn't visit the canvas, he didn't knock Salvador out, either.

Lopez, who dedicated this fight to the 50 American hostages in Iran, probably wished that he, too, was in Teheran by the fourth round, because the young upstart from Mexico had not only all but closed Danny's left eye, but had also bloodied his nose. And he was nowhere near finished reshaping Lopez's face.

It is no secret that Lopez is vulnerable to the right, but when the champion's left eye started to close in the fourth round, Sanchez switched tactics. In an effort to close Lopez's other eye, Salvador started throwing and landing left hooks as if he had invented them. In both the sixth and seventh rounds, referee Waldemar Schmidt stopped the round to have the ringside doctor, Robert Blake, take a look at the deep cut Sanchez had inflicted on Danny's *good* eye (the right). Lopez was allowed to continue, but by the ninth round even the most diehard "Little Red" follower could see that it was all over as Sanchez, sensing that the end was near, started to open up. Left-right combinations, double left hooks, and triple jabs had the champion looking to his corner for the solution to the puzzle spelled Salvador Sanchez.

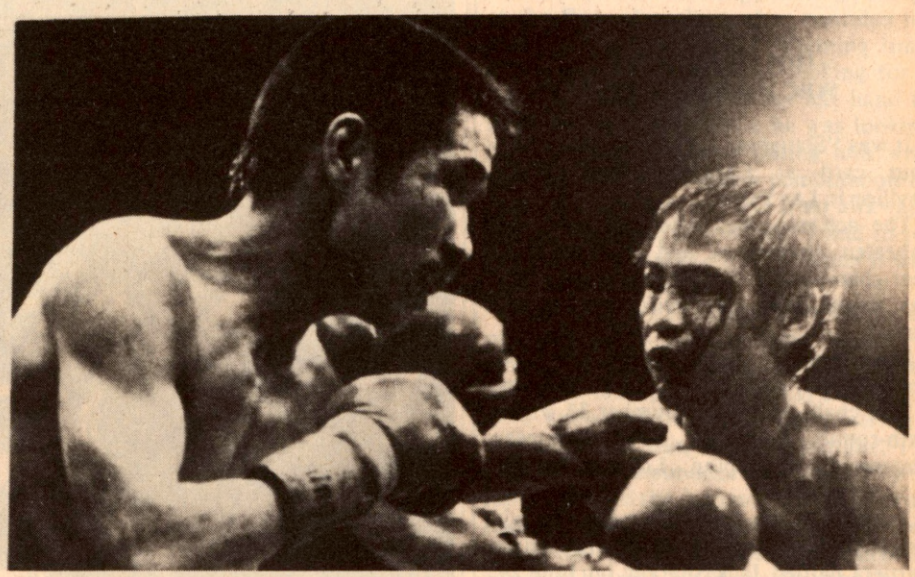
Lopez rallied briefly in the 10th round, but it was more of a case of young Sanchez coasting in order to save something for the stretch than Lopez scoring. Salvador did the same in the 11th round as he caught a second wind.

He stepped up his attack in the 12th, rocking Lopez with strong combinations. Lopez showed that not only was he a champion, but possessed a champion's heart as he still tried to take the fight to Sanchez in the 13th round. Danny's heart was willing, but he simply had taken too much punishment for his body to comply. A right-left-right combination by Sanchez sent Lopez staggering across the ring and it was all over as referee Schmidt took mercy and stopped the slaughter at 0:51 of the 13th round.

Lopez finished on his feet, showing that unlike most fighters who fight to the finish, Danny "Little Red" Lopez fights *until* he is finished.

—Arthur Rembert

RINGSIDE REPORTS



NAKAJIMA-KIM
WBC Junior Flyweight Title

Editor's Note: Joe Y. Koizumi supervised Shigeo Nakajima's training for his title winning effort against Sung-Jun Kim and also acted as his chief second. We feel, however, that his report is objective, and are pleased to print it in The Ring.

TOKYO, JAPAN — Aggressive, speedy Shigeo Nakajima, 107¾, Japan, used his left hand to advantage, battered Korea's Sung-Jun Kim, also 107¾, and won the latter's WBC junior flyweight title after 15 grueling, gory rounds of boxing.

The decision was unanimous. Referee Dick Young of Los Angeles had it 146-139, while judges Reiner Manoch of Indonesia and Takeo Ugo of Japan scored it 145-141 and 148-143, respectively, all in favor of Nakajima.

Nakajima was cut over the left eyebrow. Kim, however, was bleeding more profusely, and some fans yelled for referee Young to stop the contest. The gashes were not as deep and dangerous as they looked, though, and the referee allowed the bout to continue.

Nakajima made good use of sharp one-twos and strong body blows to take the first round. Kim, a prohibitive favorite, is a notoriously slow starter. Shigeo followed up and won the next two rounds as well.

The fourth was even, as Kim took aim at his opponent's midsection with heavy uppercuts. In the fifth, the champ turned loose, dominating the entire session with straight punches to the face of Nakajima.

The challenger came back in the sixth, moving well and countering with smashing straight rights as the champ came forward.

The seventh round was fairly even, but the Japanese challenger suffered a slight cut on the right eyebrow.

Nakajima won the eighth and ninth rounds by narrow margins. He kept tossing stinging lefts to Kim's face and averted the champ's body punches with his elbows.

The challenger's best was shown in round 10, when he bombarded Kim with an incessant fusilade of punches. Kim, his face smeared with blood from an accidental butt over the left eyebrow, protested Nakajima's style of crouching at close range. Kim is 5′5″ — two inches taller than Nakajima.

Kim looked angry, and fought back hard in the 11th with tremendous rallies to the face and body of the challenger, who looked like he was fading. It was Kim's round.

Following his corner's advice, Nakajima kept moving in rounds 12 and 13 and relied on sharp lefts, which he tossed home with precision. These rounds were dominated by the challenger, who appeared to have regained his rhythm.

The faces and torsos of both fighters were covered with blood. Kim was trying to score with his specialty — right uppercuts to the body, but Nakajima utilized his footwork and his machine gun jabs to stay in command in the 14th.

Kim chased his challenger desperately in round 15 — trying to go all-out with his vaunted body bombardments in an effort for a knockout. Nakajima, weary, looked surprised. He kept moving, however, till the final bell. Kim won the round, but it was obvious he'd lost the fight.

The lanky Kim reportedly had trouble making the weight limit. He'd had to reduce in a hurry, and the effort involved might have added to his inability to get started till the fifth.

Nakajima, jubilant, almost fell to the canvas from exhaustion as he was declared the winner and new champion. He had set — and maintained — a fast pace. His record is now 13-2-1 with seven kayoes. Kim's loss dropped him to 25-6-5 with 10 kayoes.

An overflow crowd of 3,200 jammed into Korakuen Hall, which is only supposed to seat 2,500.

The new champion was born in Ibaragi Prefecture, adjacent to Tokyo, on January 15, 1954, the third son of a farmer. He learned to box at Shimodate First High School when he was 16. At 18, Shigeo won the Prefectural championship.

Nakajima had many amateur fights while a student at Komazawa University in Tokyo, but was only able to place third in the national amateur tournaments for two years. His overall amateur record was 8-15.

Shigeo made his pro debut on July 12, 1976, after graduation, flattening Shigeo Maezawa with an impressive two-fisted attack in the second round. Kenji Yonekura, a former world-ranked flyweight and bantamweight, became his manager, and Shigeo remained unbeaten, disposing of Japanese national junior flyweight champion Kazunori Tenryu in the third round of a scheduled 10-round non-title bout on August 23, 1977.

Former WBA flyweight king Bernabe Villacampo knocked out Nakajima in the third round on March 7, 1978. Shigeo's only other loss came when he was outpointed by Korea's Hwang-Jin Kim on August 29 of the same year. Nakajima outscored former OPBF flyweight champ Hong-Soo Yang over 10 rounds in his last fight before meeting Kim.

The World Boxing Council has named Hiralio Zapata, a 5′7″ Panamanian, as Nakajima's first challenger. Shigeo will have to show that his triumph over Kim was not a fluke.

—Joe Y. Koizumi

HOLMES-ZANON
WBC Heavyweight Title

It was "Slaughter at Caesars" on a five-bout card at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion in Las Vegas.

The action-packed afternoon saw two unbeaten champions and one unbeaten near-champion-deal their opponents pitiless punishment and swift trips to the canvas.

Main event of the afternoon saw WBC heavyweight champion Larry Holmes, 213½, chalk up victory number 33 with a sixth-round knockout over European heavyweight champion, Lorenzo Zanon, 215, of Italy.

Zanon was the first Italian-born heavyweight to fight for a world title since Primo Carnera battled Jack Sharkey on June 29, 1933.

But Zanon did not fare as well as his long-ago countryman. Carnera kayoed Sharkey in the sixth round to take the World Heavyweight Title.

Ironically, the Holmes-Zanon bout also ended in the sixth round. But this time, it was the Italian champ who went down to defeat by way of a Holmes K. O. at 2:39 of the sixth.

Holmes, in the fifth defense of his title, displayed more fury than skill — in an obvious attempt to make up for his lackluster showing against Mike Weaver six months earlier.

The first few rounds saw the champion moving and dancing, attempting to feel out his opponent and to find his own timing and strategy.

During these rounds, Zanon managed to land some effective lefts and left-right combinations. The Italian managed to confuse his opponent by backing up, moving in for a flurry, and backing out again.

By the second round, Holmes began to use his prime weapon — his long, left jab. The jab, combined with some straight rights to the head and lefts to the body, started Larry on his way to victory.

Zanon, however, fought his finest round in the third — pounding Holmes with body punches and moving away before Holmes could retaliate.

By the fourth round, Holmes came on with his rhythm, his timing, and all the pent-up frenzy of retaining his title and his unbeaten record.

A straight right and a left hook sent Zanon to the canvas early in the round. The Italian was up by the count of four and managed to land a few blows himself, until he was sent to the canvas for a second time. Zanon survived the second knockdown, and received a standing eight-count.

(The standing 8-count is illegal in Nevada. But referee Ray Solis, imported from Puerto Rico as a neutral official, claimed that he was unaware of this rule. Roy Tennison, Executive Secretary of the Nevada Athletic Commission, later stated that Zanon was on the verge of a knockout at the time of the standing eight. In a less one-sided bout, the illegal count could have changed the outcome of the fight).

The fifth round saw Zanon attempting to unload his entire arsenal — consecutive left jabs, rights to the jaw, and combination body shots. But none of the punches inflicted any damage on the steel-bodied, keyed-up Larry Holmes.

Zanon came out in the sixth round, landing some ineffective body shots. But Larry Holmes decided the time had come, and began countering with furious rights and lefts. The famous Holmes left sent Zanon down for the final count at 2:39 of the round.

After the fight, an unusually subdued Larry Holmes confided that Lorenzo Zanon had confused him in the early rounds.

Holmes stated: "He's an awkward fighter; and he was hard to figure out. He kept trying to push me around the ring; but I felt I was in complete control throughout the fight. I was working on cutting the ring off; and I went into amateur style a little bit in the fourth round.

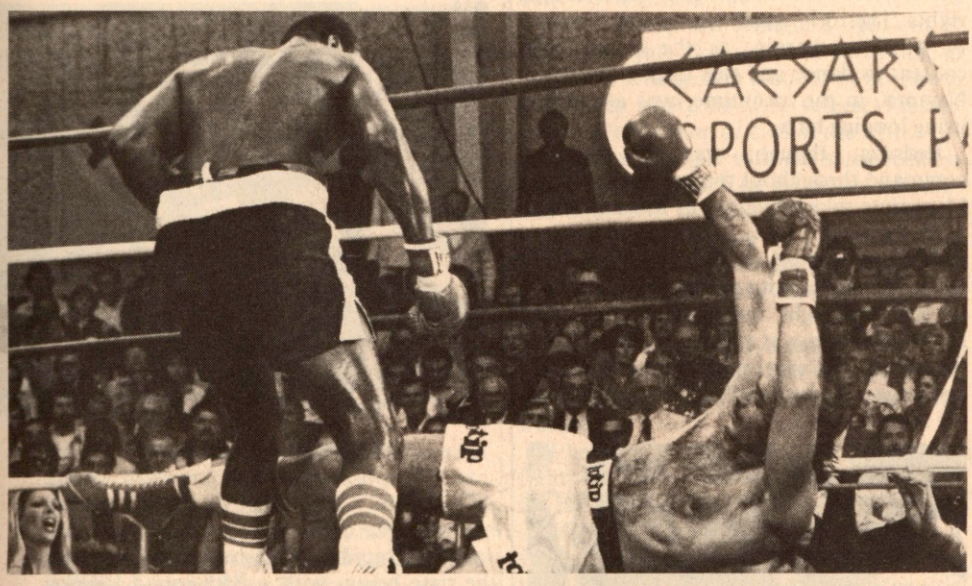
"I got on my toes to offset his strategy. I'm at my best when I make an opponent come to me. It's when I go to them that I have trouble."

Holmes expressed surprise that Zanon had gotten up after the two fourth round knockdowns, as he exclaimed: "I couldn't believe it! He kept getting up! But he gave me all I wanted; and I just decided I didn't want any more. In the sixth round, I knew it was time to put him away!"

Holmes then paid tribute to Lorenzo Zanon, saying: "He was a worthy opponent. I got hit more in this fight than I did in my fights against Norton, Shavers, or Weaver."

The victory brings Larry Holmes' unbeaten record to an enviable 33-0, with 23 knockouts.

The man who is still WBC heavyweight champion confided his two main goals: To capture the undisputed heavyweight title by beating WBA champion John Tate, and to match the perfect record of Rocky Marciano by becoming the second heavyweight champion to retire undefeated!



HEARNS-RICHARDS

Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns proved the merits of his nickname at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion when he made several direct hits to the head and body of his opponent, "Fighting Jim" Richards, and scored a knockout at 2:27 of the third round.

The 150-pound destroyer from Detroit showed the skill of an artist and the power of a demolition squad as he battered his opponent almost at will.

Richards, a native of the West Indies, attempted to keep his 154-pound body out of the reach of the hard-hitting Hearns. He used up most of his energy in the first round, constantly moving and dancing to stay away from his opponent.

But Hearns found his target early, stalking him several times to the corner, and pounding him with lethal lefts, rights, and combinations.

By the second round, Tommy Hearns took all the fight out of "Fighting Jim." He worked inside with a steady attack to Richards body. With classic strategy, he dropped his left hand and caught Richards unaware with his stunning rights. Richards found himself unable to counter the clever Hearns, and spent most of the round moving backwards to avoid the onslaught of the Detroit dynamo.

Richards came out for the third round, throwing his best right jabs. But it was to no avail. At two minutes of the round, Hearns swung a wide left hook to Fighting Jim's chin and sent him straight to the canvas. Richards had half his body off the canvas when the "Hit Man" struck again with a straight right to the jaw and the fight was all over. Richards received the 10-count from referee Harry Krause, and the official result was a Hearns K. O. victory at 2:27 of the t hird.

The win brings Hearns awesome record to 25-0, with 23 knockouts. The Detroit dynamo displays such power and talent in the ring that he has problems finding opponents.

Said Hearns after the bout: "I have to fight whoever is available. Richards was a world-rated fighter, but I managed to outmaneuver him and outpunch him with no difficulty."

Hearns, who can change his ring strategy at the flick of a glove, then confided his clever camouflage against "Fighting Jim" Richards: "I knew he was looking for a right, so I kept dropping my left hand to keep him off base. While he was looking for my right, I started hitting him with lefts. In the end, it was a combination of both that took him out. He is an awkward fighter. He came in low, and I had to set him up for the knockout. But I knew it was just a matter of time."

Hearns, who has earned a reputation as one of boxing's most brilliant fighters, is biding his time until he gets a title shot at new WBC champion, Sugar Ray Leonard.

"I know right now it's not possible," said Hearns. "But, in the meantime, I'll keep fighting about once a month to stay in top shape until the day comes." (Sugar Ray Leonard was an avid spectator at ringside, and at the Hearns' workouts, studying the moves of his possible future opponent.)

According to Hearns' manager, Emanuel Steward, WBA champion Pepino Cuevas has constantly refused to fight the "Hit Man."

"He's a sissy," cried Steward. "The Muhammad Ali people offered him $750,000 to fight Tommy, and he turned it down. He's got good reason to be afraid of us."

Steward stated that Hearns would be happy to fight deposed champion Wilfredo Benitez at any time. "His style is tailor-made for Tommy," said the manager. "We would destroy Benitez in three rounds because he can't punch that well. And you saw today what kind of punch Tommy Hearns has."

Steward continued:

"I've never seen a fighter move up as fast as Tommy Hearns. In just 24 months, he moved to the top, with no television backing or big money behind him! It took Sugar Ray Leonard three years to do what we did in two!"

Hearns, who is over six-foot, is exceptionally tall for a welterweight. He moved to the junior middleweight class last year and destroyed top middleweight contender Mike Colbert.

Hearns states, however, that he does not want to move up to the heavier division. "I want the welterweight title," he proclaimed. "And I'll stay in this division until I get it!"

Orlando Maldonado, 112, Puerto Rico, knocked out Arturo Tabaqui, 115½, in 0:53 of the 10th and final round. Referee, Richard Green.

Sterling McPhearson, 138, Las Vegas, won unanimous decision over Jaime Nava, 134½, Los Angeles, six. The scoring: judge Charles Minker, 60-54; judge Dave Moretti, 60-54; judge Hal Miller, 60-53. Referee, Harry Krause.

The five-bout card was presented by Don King Productions in association with Caesars Palace. Total attendance — 2,843. Live gate — $264,050.

Shirley Norman

PEDROZA-NEMOTO
WBA Featherweight Title

TOKYO, JAPAN — Taller, faster Eusebio Pedroza, Panama, the WBA's featherweight champion, successfully defended his title for the seventh time, as he battered national Japanese king Shigemitsu (Spider) Nemoto from every angle and won a unanimous decision after 15 rounds of boxing at Korakuen Hall.

Pedroza, 23, entered the ring at the 126-pound limit, only half a pound heavier than the 29-year-old Nemoto. But their physical differences were obvious: Pedroza, 5'8", was seven inches taller and had a 69-inch reach — 11 inches longer than Nemoto's. The defending champ utilized these advantages to thoroughly outbox Nemoto. There were no knockdowns, however, owing to the challenger's tremendous durability.

Referee Nate Morgan, U.S.A., scored the bout 147-140; judge Emma Guerra de Urugana saw it 148-138; and Japanese judge Yusaku Yoshida had it 147-146 (questionably close), all in favor of Eusebio. It was the 150th title bout staged in Japan, but only the first time a female official (Guerra) had been used. Her scoring — 10 points difference — was reasonable. It was a rather lopsided affair.

Nemoto, tough, but a powder-puff puncher whose 33-7-2 record included only eight kayoes, attacked the champ from the start. His blows, however, missed so frequently that the first two rounds were even. The third round saw Pedroza connect with sharp uppercuts to the face and midsection of Nemoto, the champ winning it by a clearcut margin.

Nemoto, who had been knocked out by Ernesto Marcel in a bid for the latter's WBA featherweight title in Panama City on September 8, 1973, kept boring in with jolting attacks, while Pedroza relied on long jabs and straight right uppercuts. Round four was nearly even.

Pedroza won the next three rounds by narrow margins. He averted Spider's roundhouse rallies and sent counterpunches to Nemoto's face. The sixth round was the hardest fought, with Spider nailing the champion to the ropes. He landed body punches, but took plenty of short uppercuts to the chin in three minutes of almost non-stop action.

By round nine, Pedroza seemed to have Nemoto's style solved. The champ scored well with solid right uppercuts to the body and cleverly blocked Spider's wild lefts and rights. The 10th round was won by Nemoto by a slight margin, as the champ was content to dance and toss only a few jabs. Nemoto, in the meantime, was attacking, using looping lefts.

Pedroza, though, was in complete command throughout the last four rounds. Uppercuts raked Nemoto as the challenger came forward.

Pedroza was at his best in round 12, when he had Nemoto at bay with a barrage of left and right uppercuts. In the last round, Pedroza was content to toy with his opponent. He employed defensive tactics and relied on footwork. Even so, he won the session.

Eusebio did not appear very pleased with his victory. He had taken it for granted long beforehand. "There were some chances to finish Nemoto, but I hurt my left hand. He was much shorter than I was, but I had no problems coping with him."

Nemoto was reflective. "Pedroza was not a terrific puncher, but he was very clever and fast. My body attacks were repeatedly avoided by his footwork and his long-armed clinching."

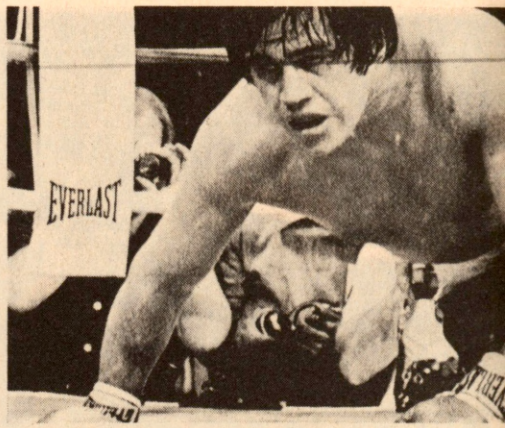
Pedroza, who has found he makes more money fighting only title bouts, is a sort of Ali stylist who depends on fast footwork, stinging lefts, and his advantages in height and reach. He lacks convincing power, but may eventually be considered a second Panama Al Brown. Brown, world bantamweight champion from 1929 to 1935, was 5'11" tall.

Katsuji Sano, 126, won unanimous decision over Isao Okahashi, also 126, in the semi-final 10-round bout. Okahashi ran out of gas in the last half of the fight.

Four rounders: Isao Takashima, 121¼, decisioned Tasashi Sueyoshi, 122. Takeyoshi Nakamura, 119¼, outscored Hiroshi Iijima, 119½. Hiroshi Miyasue, 107¾, outpointed Makoto Arihara, 107¼. Iasao Chishima, 107¼, halted Masaru Honma, 107½.

The card was presented by Misako Promotions. About 3,000 fans were in attendance at Korakuen Hall.

—Joe Y. Koizumi



SPINKS-EVANGELISTA

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Former world heavyweight champion Leon Spinks salvaged his rapidly sinking career, at least for the time being, with a fifth-round knockout over Spain's Alfredo Evangelista in a nationally televised brawl emanating from Resorts International's Superstar Theatre.

This was a fight that Spinks had to win in order to retain any hope of eventually regaining his old title. Back-to-back defeats at the hands of Muhammad Ali and Gerrie Coetzee had reduced his credibility to practically nil and Leon desperately needed an impressive showing. Whether or not the win over Evangelista qualifies as impressive is a matter of opinion, but it sure was a definite improvement over the Coetzee debacle.

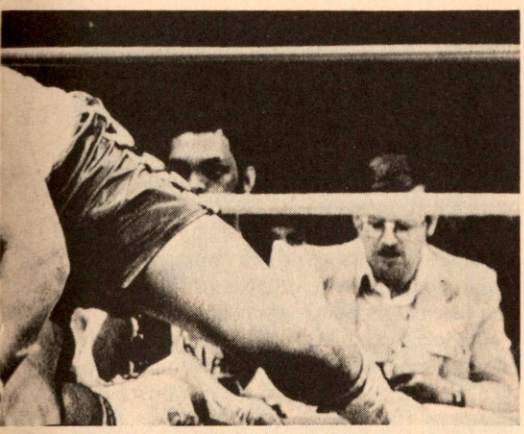
Neither combatant entered the ring the picture of prime, athletic conditioning. Evangelista, his normal pudgy self at 222, was almost matched by Spinks, 209, in the suet department. The roll of fat around Leon's waist lent credence to the rumors that he still knows how to "party hearty".

At the opening bell, both men charged into the fray with all the finesse of a couple of bull rhinos in rut. Their lack of mobility and eagerness for a quick kill produced a caveman punchout that made up for its lack of skill with back-alley excitement.

Evangelista, best remembered (or should that be forgotten?) for his losing efforts against Ali and Larry Holmes, gave better value for his money this time. In the second round, he jarred Spinks with a left hook and then drove him into a corner with a stunning right.

Suddenly it looked like Coetzee and Monte Carlo all over again. Leon, blood drooling from his mouth, eyes glazed, sagged at the knees and seemed ready to go.

The former European champ cut loose with everything he had, missing with one roundhouse swipe after another. At this



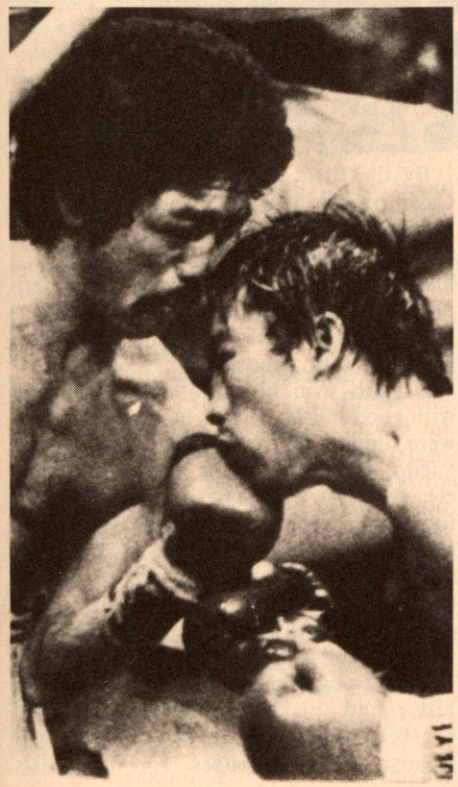
point one more solid punch would have put Spinks over, but the overanxious Alfredo just couldn't find the target.

Evangelista just about shot his wad during this all-out onslaught and seemed tired and discouraged when Spinks survived.

"I threw my best shots and Leon took them," explained Evangelista via his interpreter.

From the third round on, it was virtually all Spinks. He bulled Evangelista around the ring, landing solidly with lefts and rights. Alfredo showed only brief flashes of life and was well used up going into the fateful fifth.

Leon stayed on his man like white on rice, punishing him with a series of heavy left hooks and head-snapping right uppercuts. Evangelista was almost ready to topple when Spinks brought a right out of the klieg lights that sent him sprawling to the floor. Evangelista made it to his hands and knees where he took referee Vincent Rainone's 10-count at 2:43 of the fifth.



Spinks still fights with the same reckless abandon with which he drives an automobile and, with the current lack of heavyweight talent, I'm sure we will be seeing a lot more of boxing's most publicized problem child. Nobody ever accused Spinks of being dull.

Asked what punch Evangelista hurt him with, the irrepressible Spinks replied: "I don't know. I was fighting, you were watching."

When questioned about the number of fights he wants before again challenging for the championship, Spinks said, "A hell of a lot more than I had the first time. I's a young man (26) and I can afford to lay back. I'd say I'm not shooting for the title 'til early next year."

Saoul Mamby, 145, New York, TKO'd Tom Tarantino, 142, Milwaukee, at 0:18 of the first round in a scheduled 10-rounder. Derrik Holmes, 122½, New Carrollton, Md., TKO'd Livio Nolasco, 122, Dominican Republic, at 2:54 of the second round in a scheduled eight-rounder. Dan Snyder, 160, Darby, Pa., won unanimous decision over Wilson Bell, 157½, Baltimore, Md., eight. Heriberto Torres, 128, Vineland, N.J., and Pedro Lebron, 130, Kennett Square, Pa., drew, six. Kevin Howard, 155, Philadelphia, won unanimous decision over Joe Tiberi, 155, Vineland, N.J., six.

John Fitzpatrick refereed the Holmes-Nolasco, Howard-Tiberi, and Torres-Lebron bouts. Vincent Rainone handled Mamby-Tarantino and Snyder-Bell.

The card was put together for CBS-TV by Don King and Frank Gelb and drew a packed house of 1,500 at the Superstar Theatre in the Resorts International Hotel Casino in Atlantic City.

—Nigel Collins

GUSHIKEN-KIM
WBA Junior Flyweight Title

OSAKA, JAPAN — Slick punching southpaw Yoko Gushiken retained his WBA junior flyweight title for the 11th time, using sharp combinations to win a unanimous decision over OPBF titlist Yong-Hyun Kim, Korea, after 15 gory rounds.

Referee Paul Field, a U.S. Army worker living in Japan for 10 years, scored it 149-141; Japanese judge Kiyoaki Kurume had it 150-140; Korean judge Ik-Sung Cho saw it 148-144, all in favor of Gushiken.

Despite the scoresheets, it was not an easy triumph for Gushiken, who bled from the forehead quite profusely from the 10th round on. Yoko relied on fighting at long range to win, as he had suffered injuries to both hands early in the contest.

Gushiken, unbeaten in 20 previous bouts with 14 knockouts, started more cautiously than usual, as Kim, 22, was quite an unknown quantity to him. The Korean challenger, a croucher, had compiled a 12-4-3 record with only three knockouts. All of his kayoes, however, came in 1979. He had won the OPBF title by halting compatriot Sang-Il Chung in only two rounds on November 27.

Gushiken and Kim fought on even terms in the first two rounds, seldom tossing any strong blows.

Gushiken, 5'3½" and 107½, started throwing quick right jabs in round three, and won the session. Kim, however, bobbed, averting many of the punches.

The fourth round saw Gushiken connect with one-two-three combos. On almost all occasions, the third punch was to the body. Kim was game, and managed to land a few solid lefts and rights, but Gushiken was in command by a slight margin.

In round five, the champ, who'd damaged his left hand, continued concentrating on his right jab. Kim, however, took the offensive, chasing the fast-footed Gushiken and scoring with occasional rights. It was even.

The sixth was Yoko's round. He kept to his hit-and-run tactics and tossed smashing combos while avoiding Kim's wild punches with his footwork.

The seventh round was furiously fought. Gushiken tried to keep his pace and distance. He tossed a lot of combos, but Kim came forward energetically and used what the textbook prescribed against a southpaw — sudden straight rights followed by short left hooks. Gushiken took some heavy blows. At times, he fought back with strong rallies, but Kim seemed to win the round.

The Korean challenger laid up on his attack in the eighth session. This seemed strange, but he had set a fast pace in the seventh and was, doubtless, tired. Gushiken won the canto.

In round nine, Yoko took command. He had Kim bleeding from the nose and mouth from solid and incessant combinations to the face and body.

An accidental butt opened up a bad gash on Gushiken's forehead in the 10th round, and the blood flowed freely. Yong-Hyun, 5'1" and, like Yoko, 107½, threw some roundhouse rights and missed with them. It was an even round.

The 11th to the 14th rounds were clearly taken by Gushiken. He appeared to be following and ordered safety-first strategy, relying on long right jabs and straight lefts delivered at long range. This was in order to give his wide gash time to cease bleeding. The claret, though, did not stop flowing.

Referee Field took a point away from Kim in the 11th. Reason? Butting!

The final round saw Yoko fighting with his right hand only. He had Kim, however, missing often. Gushiken is a smart defensive fighter.

Kim is a much harder puncher than his record indicates. His right swings forced

Gushiken to box cautiously. The fans, of course, had expected Yoko to score a rather easy kayo win.

Gushiken did not display his usual strong punching, but his hand injuries forced him to rely on science instead of power.

Yoko's victory ties Luis Estaba's record for most defenses of a world junior flyweight title — 11.

Gushiken was still bleeding after the fight. He didn't look satisfied with his victory.

"I couldn't fight my fight after I injured my hands hitting Kim's skull. He crouched very low. Sorry not to score a knockout before my many fans in Osaka."

Kim did not appear dejected. "My chance, in the seventh, flew away because of the champion's clever weaving and footwork. Gushiken's right jabs were a nuisance to me. He is a good champ with fine speed, technique, and power."

Gushiken was an obvious winner, but it was one of the toughest bouts of his career.

Southpaw Jo Tatsuki, 125¾, outpointed veteran Kosei Kawaguchi, also 125¾, in the semi-final eight.

Six-rounders: Sung-In Suh, 117¾, outscored lanky Satoshi Koguchi, 116¾. (Koguchi, a former amateur star who had scored 61 consecutive wins, was fighting his second pro bout.) Lefty Hiroyuki Tada, 106½, a stablemate of Gushiken, won a unanimous decision over Tsuguhiro Miyaoka, 108.

Four-rounders: Manabu Miyazukino, 120¾, outscored Masahiro Sasaki, 122. Rikuo Watanabe, 106¾, outpointed Isao Kimura, 107¼.

The card was presented by Masaki Kanehira's Kyoei Promotions, and telecast nationwide through TBS-TV.

About 12,000 fans attended at Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium.

—Joe Y. Koizumi

ARGUELLO-CASTILLO
WBC Junior Lightweight Title

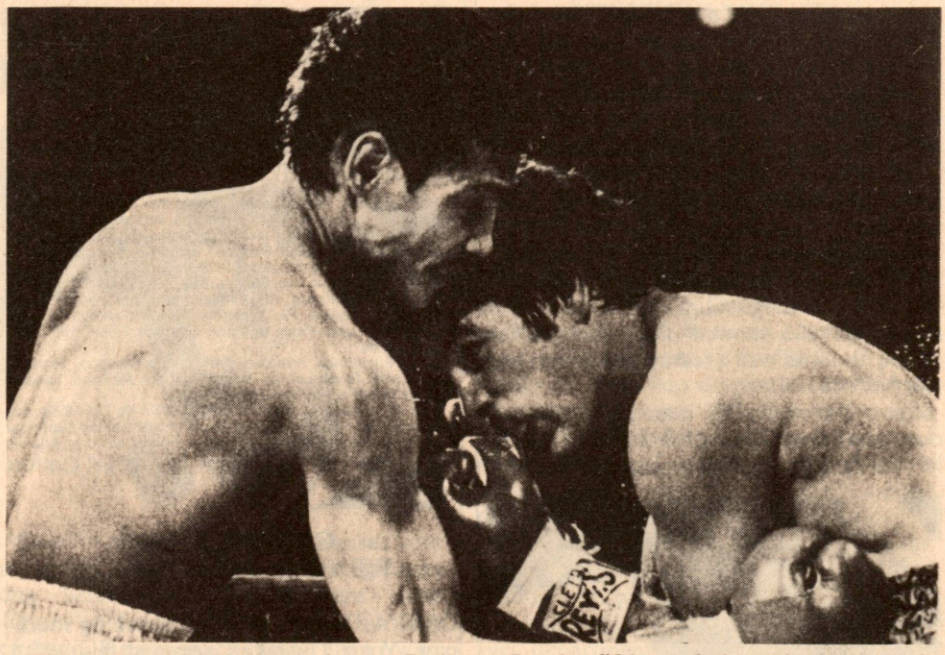
TUCSON, ARIZONA—World Boxing Council junior lightweight champion Alexis Arguello shows no signs of losing his dedication for his chosen profession. In his seventh title defense, Arguello halted previously undefeated Ruben Castillo of Bakersfield at 2:03 of the 11th round with a barrage of left hooks, the finisher being a solid blow beneath the rib cage.

The challenger fought his heart out, boxed with great polish at times, moved intelligently, and made a real attempt to capture the title. But Castillo was facing one of the most formidable champions in boxing today. Arguello's advantage in size and maturity was the difference that turned back Castillo.

"He fought a very good fight," Arguello said of the loser. "He knew what to do out there. He boxed me very well. But I knew that I would begin to hurt him and slow him down. I was never worried because I trained very hard and I believe in my ability. I have a lot of respect for Ruben; he has nothing to be ashamed of."

Before moving up to the 130-pound class in June, 1977, Arguello made four successful defenses of his WBA featherweight title. In a combined 13 title fights, the lanky, rail-thin Nicaraguan fighter has knocked out all but one opponent. An indication of how well Arguello is regarded in the fight community was given recently when manager Jackie McCoy refused a match with the champion for his number one rated WBC contender, Frankie Baltazar!

"I would like to move up to the lightweight division," Arguello said. "Fighting at 135 pounds would be better for me. But I will not give up my title until I am guaranteed a chance at the lightweight title. It is a question of money only. I can always force myself to make 130, but I would prefer that one of the lightweight champions give me a chance."



Castillo was a "5-2" underdog and though undefeated in 45 fights, he has never beaten a real world class fighter. His best wins were over Hector Carrasquilla, Warren Matthews, Juan Escobar, and Walter Seeley. Not much when compared to the talent that the 27 year old champion has bested—Ruben Olivares, Bobby Chacon, Alfredo Escalera, and Jose Legra,—all at one time world champions!

Castillo's challenge for the title was held at the Tucson Community Center. A crowd of 4,415 attended the city's first world title fight, paying $57,450. ABC-TV carried the bout nationwide.

Arguello used his exceptional reach advantage in the first two rounds as he continually speared Castillo's face with stinging jabs. The challenger circled around the ring, feinted a bit, and threw a few polite leads.

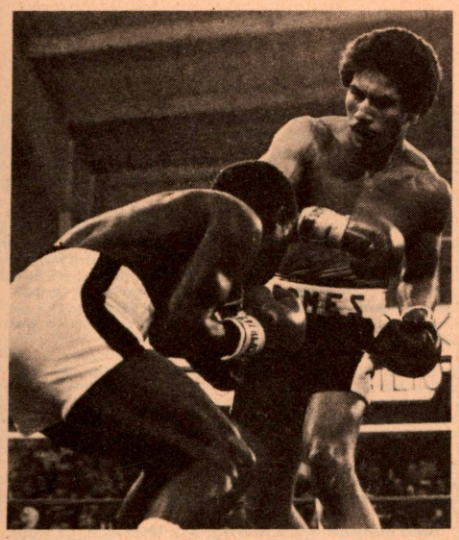
In the third, Castillo, 129½, proved his aspirations for the title were serious. On a half dozen occasions he tossed rapid combinations, not power punches, but effective nonetheless. His strategy was obvious, move and be patient, and then spring to action when an opening was present.

In the fourth, Arguello landed a couple of solid shots to Castillo's body, but, in return, he was countered to the head with left hooks.

By the fifth, and through the seventh, Castillo made it a fight and he even gave the partisan fans something to go berserk about. He moved well, usually back and to his left, and when the champion came stepping in on his heels, Castillo would suddenly begin an attack, slapping Arguello's head with both hands.

Castillo won his points, honestly and with good hustle, but his moments of glory were slipping fast as the fight went on. Arguello, in excellent shape, stayed calm, leveled good, hard shots to the head and body, took some in return, but never lost his composure. He followed the feisty challenger around the ring, jabbing, trying for follow up hooks. The tide began to turn in the eighth and ninth rounds, and, by the 10th, Arguello had gained complete control.

The 22-year-old Castillo tried to start the 11th round quickly, but his legs were without bounce and within a minute he was leaning against the ropes. Too bad Alexis



Arguello was standing in front of him, wearing boxing gloves. The champion pounded with both hands to the head. Finally, the left to the side dropped Castillo. He sank slowly, as if falling through water. He made a damn fine effort to get up, and he actually made it, but the fight was wisely stopped by referee Otavio Meyran.

"I thought I was doing very well," the loser said. "I was surprised at how strong he was. Much stronger than I thought he would be. I didn't want this fight, but the money was too good to turn down. From now on, I'm only going to fight as a featherweight. Hopefully, I will get a chance to fight Danny Lopez."

After 10 rounds, the scoring was as follows; judges Juan Guerra and Ricardo Risso each had it 97-96 for Arguello, while judge Ron Cox from Arizona had it 97-96 for Castillo.

Arguello received $100,000, while Castillo was paid $35,000. Much of Arguello's wealth was left behind in Nicaragua, which he hastily left when the government was overthrown last year. He and his family have settled in Miami, where he now seeks U.S. citizenship.

The champion's record went to 64-4, 53 victories by knockout, and he enjoys the unique pleasure of knowing that there is no one fighter who poses a threat to his reign. At least not in the junior lightweight division. Samuel Serrano, the WBA world champion from Puerto Rico, is the sole remaining name to be reckoned with, but that fight will never come off. Arguello is clearly one of the great fighters of this era.

Nicky Perez, 123, Tucson, knocked out Angel Salinas, 122, Mexico, at 2:01 of the second round. Juan "Kid" Meza, 128½, Los Angeles, stopped Simon Fontanel, Douglas, 126, in the second. Randy McNurlin, 136, Tucson, knocked out Angel Nemdiola, 123½, Nogales, at 2:44 of the first. Jose Torres, Tucson, 116, put away Jose Luis Leos, Mexico, 112, at 2:58 of the second. Finally, Bobby Kreuger, 133, Tucson, stopped Rafael Tejeda, 131, Mexicali, at 2:45 of the second.

—Christopher Coats

GOMEZ-VALDEZ
WBC Bantamweight Title

Wilfredo Gomez, the WBC super bantamweight champion, made boxing history at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion in Las Vegas as he broke the all-time record for consecutive title defense knockouts.

The incomparable Gomez scored a TKO at the end of the sixth round over Ruben "Cobra" Valdez, bringing his skein to 11. Before the bout, Gomez was neck-and-neck with former lightweight champion Roberto Duran — 10 knockouts each.

Gomez broke the record in this, his last bout as a super bantamweight, before moving up to the heavier featherweight division.

Valdez, a native of Colombia, was rated number 2 by the WBC before the Gomez battle. But he was no match for the superb Gomez, who swarmed all over him from the opening bell.

Valdez, at 121¾, fought in unorthodox style, constantly in a crouch, with his head kept low between his gloves. This made him a perfect target for the brilliant, hard-hitting Gomez, who pounded him with every ounce of his 122-pound Puerto Rican power.

Gomez had every strategy known to boxing at his command; and he used them all against the hapless Valdez. The champion unleashed a variety of straight rights, left hooks, and his glorious swooping right uppercuts. Gomez unleashed as many as 30 punches in a single flurry — without a single counter punch from Valdez.

Ruben was slightly effective in the third round, when he dealt Gomez a couple of left jabs and maneuvered him to the ropes. However, the super-slick champion merely slid away from his opponent and countered with a constant flurry of lefts and rights to Valdez's body.

It was a Gomez uppercut in the third round that split the inside of Valdez' mouth. The challenger stated later that: "I hurt very bad after this."

The fourth and fifth rounds saw a gutsy Valdez attempting to stay in the fight. However, his attacks were so feeble that Gomez several times stood in the center of the ring, with his hands on his hips in apparent disdain.

By the sixth round, Valdez was barely able to perform. Gomez pounded him with a left kidney shot, several lefts to the head, and rights and lefts to the head and body. Near the end of the round, Valdez was staggered by a straight left followed by two right uppercuts.

The Colombian challenger barely made it to his stool; and the bout was stopped by his corner at the end of the round.

The Gomez-Valdez title bout, Wilfredo Gomez was presented with a trophy by Caesars Palace Executive Director Harry Wald. Wald stated that the trophy paid double tribute to Gomez: It proclaimed him the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world; and it marked his achievement in breaking the all-time record of consecutive title defense knockouts.

Later, in the Caesars press room, a jubilant Gomez declared: "I am very happy for establishing this record, for my own pride; and for the pride of my people of Puerto Rico. I am very happy, grateful, and proud!"

Gomez paid sporting tribute to his beaten opponent, saying: "Valdez was a courageous fighter and a good contender. No one had ever knocked him out before today. That's why I worked on him all the time — to be sure I could knock him out."

Gomez now has an awesome record of 28 straight knockout wins against one draw in his first professional bout.

Wilfredo Gomez, who has had constant trouble making the 122-pound weight limit, will now move up to the featherweight division.

In the weeks before the Valdez bout, Gomez had constantly expressed his desire to wrest the featherweight crown from Danny "Little Red" Lopez.

However, Lopez's loss the day before to Salvador Sanchez dashed this goal. Gomez stated that, while he was disappointed, he now plans to take the featherweight title from the new champion.

Gomez will fight one tune-up bout, against Nigeria's Eddie Ndukwu, and then tackle Sanchez in search of a second title.

Although the purse will be considerably less than it would have been against Danny Lopez, Gomez declared: "Financially, I am very well off. I am fighting not so much for the money — as for my professional pride and achievement!"

Gomez will not vacate his super bantamweight title, claiming that he plans to go from being the champion of my division to being the champion of another.

Challenger Ruben Valdez, a picture of dejection, gallantly met the press after his defeat. Speaking through his interpreter, Valdez said: "I feel very bad inside. I hurt very bad from the third round when a hard punch cut the inside of my mouth. I hurt so bad I felt I might be knocked out in the third round; but I wanted to keep on fighting. After the sixth round, I felt very, very bad all over. In fact, I feel so bad, my corner said: 'Don't fight any more'."

—Shirley Norman

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CONNECTICUT

▲ HARTFORD — Civic Center Assembly Hall — Don Addison, 175, Waterbury, parlayed a doubled-up left hook and follow up rights to wrest the New England light heavyweight title from Matt Ross, also 175, Lowell, Mass., in a 10-rounder on a show marred by the critical injury of another boxer.

A mantle of impending doom had enveloped the crowd of 1,511 before the title bout took the stage. It was the largest turnout for one of a series of monthly shows staged over the past year in this city's equivalent of New York's M.S.G. Felt Forum. The fans had been sobered by the head injury suffered by welterweight Charlie Newell in the semi-final. A right-left-right series of punches to the head by unbeaten Marlon Starling of Hartford, the last landing just below Newell's left temple, felled the Connecticut Correctional Center inmate face forward a half minute before the end of the seventh round. His head struck the deck with an indelible thud and referee Lou Bogash called up two ringside doctors at the count of nine. They included neurologist Dr. John X.R. Basile, who with Dr. Joseph G. Uricchio, ministered to the stricken fighter. Dr. Basile was to perform an hours long operation later the same night to relieve pressure on the brain. The neurologist had been added to the staff supervising boxing just a week before by commissioner Mary Heslin, head of the Conn. Dept. of Consumer Protection, under which the sport is regulated.

Starling dominated the slated eight-round bout. Six weeks earlier, Newell had pressed him into giving his best performance to win a four-rounder in Bristol, Conn. After that one, Newell upset unbeaten Papo Figueroa and stopped Wilfredo Franco of New Haven.

Addison, the stronger of the two after Ross had to sweat off weight to get within the division limit, swept the last three rounds to win the regional crown. The defending champ warded off the body assaults Don had used to stop his last two foes, but left his face an inviting target. Tripled jabs, doubled-up lefts, and some right hand leads tossed by Don scored there, and the crowd went wild in the ninth after Addison staggered his tiring foe. The three officials had the new champ winning by 49-42 and 49-43 scores on the five-point must system, this veteran observer had it even after seven rounds and Don winning 48-45.

Tim LaValley, 142, Troy, New York, TKO'd Hector Ortiz, 145, Hartford, in the fourth round of a slated six. Miguel Sanchez, 158, Bridgeport, TKO'd John Griffin, 161, Latham, New York, in the first round of another scheduled sixer. Felix Nance, 144, New London, Conn., and Rocky Ortiz, 144, New York City, drew, four. Dick Embleton, 200, Thomaston, kayoed Bob Mladinich, 229, Latham, New York, in the second round of a scheduled four. Miguel Quiles, 131, Hartford, outscored Eddie Flores, 130, Somers, four.

▲ WEST HARTFORD — Stage West — Victor Arnua, 136, Hartford, scored his third consecutive knockout by kayoing Benito Jiminez, also 136, Hoboken, N.J., in 1:14 of the first round in a scheduled six-round feature as boxing was revived in a converted dance hall.

Several shows had been held in the mid 1970s when the site was known as Columbia Music Hall, staged by promoters Manny Leibert and Stan Czerwinski. Both were present among a vocal crowd of several hundred, and current promoter Francis (Moose) Chilone was encouraged enough by the turnout to announce a series of shows here.

A left-right combo to the jaw dropped Jiminez on the seat of his pants for a mandatory eight count, and a series of punches by Arnua put him down again. Referee Pinky Morris counted him out.

Referee Lou Bogash halted the semi-final 30 seconds before the final bell in another slated six and awarded Papo Figueroa, 147, Hartford, a TKO victory over Nordine Bensallah, 144, Albany, New York. Figueroa staggered his foe with a right to the jaw in the first round, switched to a southpaw stance briefly in the third, and chased the New Yorker all over the ring with punches in the last two heats. Bensallah's bolo rights flailed the air; he scored only once with Kid Gavilan's famed weapon. Figueroa is now 7-1.

The only bout that went the route produced a popular six-round draw between Pepe Vasquez, 129, Hartford, and Jimmy Magnifico, 127, Hackensack, N.J.

Muhammad Shabazz, 169, Hartford, kayoed J.C. Moody, 172, New York City, with a phantom punch in 1:13 of the first round. Jack Johns, 148, Hartford, TKO'd Al Edwards, 146, Jersey City, in the second round. Marcus Jackson, 177, Hartford, kayoed Walter Driscoll, 178, Brockton, Mass., in 0:39 of the first round.

▲ FAIRFIELD — Ottavio's Restaurant — Unbeaten Scott Luckacheck added a sixth victory to his record. The Westport heavyweight stepped out and stopped Jim Harris, Philadelphia, in less than a round in the feature of a combo dinner-boxing show.

The show, held with the ring set up in the midst of diners seated 'round it, drew a gate of close to $5,700 at $20 tops. Dinner was not included.

Harris had scored an upset knockout over previously unbeaten Ken Schmidt of New Haven in his previous start. That was at the Hartford Civic Center in November, where Ken had compiled a 6-0 mark.

Bridgeport's Miguel Sanchez stopped Jerry Clark in the second round of a middleweight semi-final. Steve Small of Westport halted Joe Brown, Philadelphia, in the second heat of a slated six.

Rocky Fusco, White Plains, New York, TKO'd Jackie Cowal, Stratford, Conn., welterweights. Roddy McDowall, Halifax, Nova Scotia, TKO'd Dave Busby, Philadelphia, welters. Charlie Newell, Somers, won a split decision over Joe Fryer, New York City, four, welterweights. Miguel Quiles, Hartford, outpointed Greg Monnick, White Plains, four, featherweights.

JOSEPH CASSANO

ILLINOIS

▲ BELLEVILLE — Augustine's Restaurant — Old fighters never die; they just fade away. That was the consensus of fans who watched up-and-coming Henry Porter, 198, St. Louis, batter 36-year-old Memphis Al Jones, 207, into a fifth round technical knockout.

Porter, a muscular 23-year-old, completely outclassed his aging foe. He repeatedly hurt Jones with two-handed salvos to the head and body, and only Al's experience enabled him to last as long as he did.

Jones was a heavy underdog, but he was conceded a puncher's chance. In the 1967, the journeyman had Jerry Quarry down twice and nearly out in a bout in San Francisco. In 1974, Jones got off the deck five times to kayo Boone Kirkman in one of the year's biggest upsets.

But against Porter, the only thing Jones had going for him was heart. And that simply wasn't enough. If Jones is smart, he'll hang 'em up.

The win was Porter's second in a row after being stopped by James "Quick" Tillis. Two and a half weeks earlier, Porter had whipped Lynn Ball, who went on to knock out perennial contender Ron Lyle.

Porter, 12-1, is ready for some bigger game.

Alvin Fowler, 132, St. Louis, outpointed trialhorse Simmie Black, 135, Memphis, 10. Fowler had too much class for Black.

George Gofarth, 175, St. Louis, got back into winning form by whipping Rick Meyer, 183, Columbia, Illinois, in a six-rounder.

The Lou Moeckel promotion drew an encouraging dinner crowd of 305, who paid approximately $2,800.

▲ CHICAGO — Circle Arena — Ernie Terrell, boxing's answer to Flo Ziegfield, temporarily lost the services of Luke Capuano and James "Quick" Tillis. Nevertheless, it was on with the show.

"Talent Night" reared its head and featured a repertory company of young hopefuls, including the starring debut of Floyd "Jumbo" Cummings. Cummings, 225, Joliet, Ill., was far too strong for Larry Sims, 220, Cleveland, over six.

In the co-feature, Louis Mateo, 147, Chicago, flattened Eugene Jennings, 143, Memphis, in one. Mateo, 18, is a prospect. Keep your eye on him.

Robert Hughes, 145, Chicago, outslugged comebacking Bobby Orr, 147¼, Chicago, four. Lanky Elvis Parks, 165, Chicago, outboxed Harlan Holden, 156, Chicago, four, Jamie Olatundie, 175, Chicago, outfought Don Bester, 174, Chicago, four. Warren Thunder, 160, Chicago, stopped Imara Epesi, 157, Chicago, in the sixth round of a pier-six brawl.

Comebacking Billy Morino, 135, Chicago, surprised insiders by scoring an upset knockout over Simmie Black, 133, Memphis, in the second.

Chicago's top middleweight prospect, Roosevelt Green, 160, ran his record to 8-0 by halting Charles Gross, 161½, Cleveland, in three.

Although Terrell's card featured "no names," it drew a fair house of 715 fans who paid approximately $5,000. They definitely got their money's worth.

▲ ROCKFORD — Boylan Central Catholic High School — Promoter George Sampogna "layed hands" on heavyweight George Mostardini in an attempt to resurrect him from the dead. The effort partially succeeded. Mostardini, 214, Chicago, stopped Herbert Adams, 198, Cincinnati, in one farcical round.

Adams was such an outrageous stiff that he shouldn't have entered the ring wearing a robe. He should have been encased in a body bag.

Mostardini's ridiculously misleading record is now 12-2. What mere statistics don't say is that the so-called "Italian Assassin" has lousy reflexes and a glass jaw.

Nonetheless, he was Chicago's best drawing card in years and had the most rabid fans I'd ever seen. Unfortunately, he can't fight a lick. However, Mostardini's "comeback" is probably a prelude to a money fight with his Chicago rival, Luke Capuano. That fight, a real natural, would probably do over $50,000.

Ruffhouse Tom Fischer, 208, Dayton, Ohio, brawled his way to a ninth round TKO over Frank Brown, 228, Detroit, in the scheduled 10-round co-feature.

Brown, a heavy underdog, boxed well and tied his stronger opponent up throughout the contest. He was slightly ahead until a cut eye necessitated the stoppage.

Fischer, who recently defeated Ron Stander, is that rarest of a rare commodity: a white heavyweight who can hold his hands up. But he's not much more than that. Fischer is slow and ponderous and hasn't significantly improved since I first saw him in 1977.

Good prospect Ralph Twinning, 143, Muskegon, Michigan, hammered Lee Thomas, 155, Memphis, into submission in four. Localite John Cox, 177½, Rockford, outbrawled Bill Hollis, 174½, Flint, Michigan, four. Tom Crowley, 143, Tipton, Iowa, stopped Gene Spencer, 132, Memphis, in three.

Sampogna's card was a financial disaster. Only 206 fans showed up, paying approximately $1,400. If Sampogna decides to run again, it will only be because he got some heavy assurance from St. Jude, the Patron Saint of Lost Causes.

▲ Hooks and Jabs . . . Chicago's top grossing fight in 1979 was the Pipino Cuevas-Randy Shields WBA welterweight title clash. It drew $126,500 at the International Amphitheatre. Second was Muhammad Ali's fourth-round exhibition with Luke Capuano, which drew $63,000 at DePaul's Alumni Hall . . . The Windy City's top fighter is Young Joe Louis, a 21-year old heavyweight who's undefeated in 19 fights. But Noah Robinson's fighter isn't just another pug with a "paper mache" record. Louis has been forced to fight out of town since promoter Ernie Terrell refuses to use him. Recently Louis beat the WBC's top-ranked cruiserweight, Jesse Burnett . . . The most unusual fight story of the year concerned Herb Odom, a 46-year-old welterweight who made a successful comeback after being out of the ring since 1956! Odom, a millionaire dentist, stopped Eddie Partee and Keith Lognion and received national publicity in doing so. The former NCAA champion from Michigan State will continue to fight, as well as promote. Odom is handled by Clarence Griffin. Another of Griffin's "fighters," Kent Green was scheduled to box Muhammad Ali in a 10-round exhibition at the Chicago Stadium. The bout was abruptly cancelled amid charges of impropriety. Green levelled a lot of cheap shots at Ali and claimed the champ "had let him down." However, Ali agreed to share a $100,000 purse with Green (against 40% of the gross), something Ali has never done! Promoter Ernie Terrell's complete ineptitude in handling a major fight also contributed to the match's cancellation. The guy who really got hurt was Griffin. The likable owner of the Windy City Gym did a fantastic job of publicizing Green and got him international recognition. "The guy (Green) was a total ingrate," fumed Griffin. "Nobody ever heard of him 'till I took him on." Trivia freaks recall that Green in the only man ever to stop Ali — turning the trick in the semi-finals of the Chicago Golden Gloves on February 26, 1958 . . . Chicago's top draw is light heavyweight Luke Capuano, but that won't be for long. Terrell has matched the unbeaten puncher (13-0) with Julius Noble, who should beat him.

JIM BRADY

KANSAS

▲ DODGE CITY — Civic Center — They came by car and pickup down streets with names right out of the history of the old west. Names such as Wyatt Earp Boulevard and Gunsmoke Avenue. One thousand strong, they came to see the first professional fight card in Dodge City in over 40 years. They anted up $5,000.00 to see five fights, all of which ended in knockouts. (Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday would have been proud.)

In the main event, journeyman light heavyweight Ned Hallacy of Wichita toyed with Bobby Barker of Fort Worth, Texas for less than two minutes before knocking him out in the first round. The win brought Hallacy's record to 32-4-2. (One of those two draws was with Mike Quarry. Hallacy also holds a knockout win over Tom Bethea.)

In a companion 10-rounder, local heavyweight Les Meyer improved his perfect record scoring a third round TKO over Steve Osborne of Belleville, Tennessee. Meyer, now with a record of 7-0, had too much class for the pudgy Tennesseean as he scored several picture perfect combinations forcing Osborne's corner to throw in the towel.

In a six-round preliminary bout, middleweight Glen Hedgepatch of Wichita was too fast, too strong, too good for outclassed but game Johnny McDuff of Dodge City. Following several staggering right hands to the head, Hedgepatch knocked McDuff out in the second round sending him through the ropes

with a devastating right to the jaw.

Lightweight action Marshall Villa, Wichita, knock out Bobby Smith of San Antonio, Texas in the second round and Jerry Magdellano of Wichita scored a third round TKO over Julio Santia of San Antonio.

▲ WICHITA — Garvey Center — Welterweight Dave Bolden of New York City may never become a world champion, but to the fight fans of Wichita he will always be remembered as a class-fighter. Local favorite Pat Hallacy can attest to Bolden's class.

Hallacy slugged out a unanimous decision over the New York wildcat in ten fast and bloody rounds. He won every round; and he *earned* every round. Bolden gave him nothing — nothing but the hardest fight Hallacy has had in a long, long time.

Both men were drenched in Bolden's blood from the fourth round on. The claret squirted from his nose; it gushed from his mouth. It bathed both fighters and rained out onto the ring apron and reporter's notebooks. But the warrior from New York refused to go down. It wasn't pretty, but it was a beautiful contest.

The Wichita Irishman hit Bolden with everything in his arsenal; but every time that it seemed Hallacy was on the verge of scoring a knockout, the scrappy New Yorker would come blazing back with brain-rattling punches of his own.

Hallacy, whose record goes to 24-2, proved that he can brawl as well as box and Bolden proved that he is not an easy "mark" for anyone.

Referee Vern Miller imposed a standing-eight-count on the New Yorker in the seventh round, and that is as close as Hallacy ever came to stopping the iron-willed Bolden.

Dick Meek, Hallacy's manager, said it best: "Bolden is tough, tough, tough!"

Cruiserweight Ned Hallacy, Pat's older brother, needed less than two rounds to dispose of Don Melancon, 173, of Houston.

The tall, lean Texan was felled four times before the bout finally came to an abrupt end. He was down once in the first and three times in the third round.

This was Ned's sixth straight win since being stopped in 1978 by Tony Licata in New Orleans. His record is now 33-5-2.

In preliminary action, Bruce (the Jewish Bomber) Strauss used Frank Patterson of Davenport, Iowa as a punching bag for three rounds before the ring doctor wisely decided to end the contest.

Patterson, 152, hit the deck twice in the second round, and was given a standing-eight-count in the third before the bout was finally stopped at the end of the fourth round.

Strauss, always a crowd pleaser, is fast becoming a favorite in Wichita after several bouts here including a 10-rounder in '79 with Pat Hallacy. Pat floored him four times but had to settle for a unanimous decision.

Other action saw local middleweight Odell Willis the winner after six over Dennis Horne of Oklahoma City.

Horne went down early in the first round but came back strong seconds later to pin Willis against the ropes with a punishing body attack and brain numbing shots to the head.

The decision in Willis' favor brought mixed reaction from the crowd. Several thought Horne had won. A draw would not have been out of order.

In a fast four-rounder, lightweight Jerry Magdaleno of Wichita won a decision over Ray Menefee of Omaha.

Bantamweight Orville Flying Horse of McIntosh, South Dakota survived a knockdown in the second round to score a knockout at 1:44 of the third round over Julio Santia of Wichita.

And the opening bout of the evening saw lightweight Marshall Villa, Wichita, post a kayo victory over Anthony Lopez of San Antonio at 1:47 of round two.

BOB SURBER

NEW JERSEY

▲ TOTOWA — Ice World — New Jersey's heavyweight champion Scott Frank continues to win, but the question remains — can Frank stand in there with the big boys? Not to take anything away from Frank, but demolishing a battle-scarred Ron Stander in one round is by no means a true test of his skills.

The fight started with a rush — by Ron. After a wild left by the 232-pound Stander, the undefeated heavy out of Oakland, N.J., sunk a solid left into Ron's ample mid-section, his arm momentarily disappearing from sight.

Midway through the round, one of many Frank jabs snapped back Stander's head and the notorious bleeder from Omaha began to live up to his reputation. Frank, 210, pressed home his advantage, scoring with ease against the human punching bag in front of him, who was trying his best to counter "punch" with "maul". By the end of the round, Stander's face was a cross between a Red Cross blood bank and a puffy turnip with one eye. Between rounds, Dr. Cassidy decided that he had seen enough, even if the fans hadn't, and stopped the one-sided fight.

In other action at the packed Ice World, super sensation (and newly married) Rocky Lockridge successfully defended his New Jersey featherweight title against veteran Sammy Goss in the most exciting bout of the evening.

From beginning to end, the fight was all Lockridge, who outclassed the Trentonian with some nifty boxing. Lockridge, 126, on the contrary, left only one question to be answered — can he mature to the class of a Danny "Red" Lopez?

Mike "Nino" Gonzalez, 156, acting like he'd rather have gone fishing, stalked Long Islander Mike Michaud for six rounds, only showing glimpses of his recent form.

With 30 seconds gone in the seventh, Michaud taunted the usually vibrant New Jersey welterweight champ, who responded and pummeled him to the canvas at 1:02 of the round.

In other matches, middleweight Danny Corbett, of Clifton, outslugged Larry Esaldo from Woodbridge, in an action-packed four-rounder. Tommy Merola, of Newark, decisioned Billy Carabello of Paterson in another four-round middleweight bout. Lyndhurst's Mike Fisher took out Trenton's Tee Carpenter in 1:03 of the third.

A crowd of 3,200, the largest ever to attend Lou Duva's Ice World, paid $34,888 to see a fine night of boxing.

JACK GOODMAN

NEW YORK

▲ HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU—Holiday Inn—Sports trivia buffs will remember this show as the first of the decade in the New York City area (there was also a show in upstate New York the same night). Boxing buffs—especially those who paid $25 to first eat dinner, then watch the bouts—will want to remember as little as possible about the card, held in the ballroom of the Holiday Inn.

For those who paid $12.50 just to watch the six-bout card—topped by local hero Bobby Cassidy vs. last-minute substitute Kid Samson—the show was at least palatable. That is more than can be said for the unfortunate souls who forked over 25 inflation-eaten dollars to promoter Jimmy Winters, in the expectation of sitting down to a prime rib dinner at 7:00, followed by the fights at 8:30.

The doors to the ballroom did not open until 7:29, because, as Winters almost tearfully explained, "The room is not set up." Then came a problem with seating. One man, who had paid $50 for two dinner tickets, was seated at table 23. The trouble is, there was no table 23. It was becoming a scene from a Woody Allen movie. Then came another problem. Main-eventer Cassidy, one of the greatest ticket-sellers in the area, had arranged for his closest friends to be put at table one, a table he had been told "has the best view in the house." Wrong again. Bobby was upset. His friends were upset. And poor Jimmy Winters looked ready to put a gun to his head. At 8:50 the fruit cup and salad arrived, but the fights had not even started. Finally, amid loud complaints of "let's start this show!", debuting Carl Wilson, 152, Bronx, was brought out at 9:00 to face three-bout pro Jerry Clark, 147, Philadelphia. After four rounds, the tall (6') Wilson had earned the decision and his first professional victory. Clark's record dropped to 2-2.

"Bring out bout number two," yelled an inspector from the New York State Athletic Commission.

"Bring out our food!," yelled a dinner customer.

In the second four-rounder, John Molander, 161, Centereach, L.I., dropped Philadelphia's Malak Muhammad, 160, twice in the first round, the second time face down for the count at 2:44. Referee Tony Perez refereed the first two bouts. Muhammad had been kayoed in the third round by Henry Bunch in Washington, D.C., three days earlier.

In another four-rounder, unbeaten southpaw Martin Parham, 135½, New York, went to 5-0 with a four-round decision against Kato Ali, 135, Philadelphia. Ali was down at the end of the second round and in the middle of the fourth.

A six-rounder saw John "The Heat" Verderosa move his record to 6-0 (five knockouts) with a fifth-round stoppage of Maximo Luciano. A hard left to the body as referee Vinnie Rainone yelled "Break!" took all the fight out of Luciano, who began to sink to the floor. Luciano, 133, Dominican Republic, went into a semi-squat for an instant, then regained his balance and stood up, though turned halfway around and unprotected. Ref Rainone hesitated in stopping the fight, and Verderosa went after Luciano, hitting him another two or three shots. It was then Rainone halted matters at 1:41. Luciano's handler, Syd Martin, claimed the initial left to the body was landed after Rainone yelled "Break!" and that Luciano should have been given a five-minute rest. Rainone contends the punch landed just as he was breaking the fighters. This reporter agrees with the referee. The blow appeared to have been perfectly legal.

A six-rounder between George Casher, 133, St. Albans, New York, and Pat Brennan, 131, Plainedge, New York, was over in 42 seconds of the first round. The first punch Casher landed, a hard overhand right to the head, stunned Brennan, who was then dropped by a left-right to the face. After climbing to his feet and taking another hard hook to the head, referee Rainone threw his arms around Brennan, saving him.

In the main event, Bobby Cassidy, 181, Levittown, New York, was made to look bad for four rounds by Kid Samson, 183, Philadelphia. In the fifth round, Samson and Cassidy began to swap punches in a furious exchange. During the exchange, Samson injured his right hand. The injury was severe enough to make him lose his appetite for fighting, and he could not come out for round six.

Speaking of appetite, the prime rib dinner did not arrive until nearly 10:00, some three hours after it was promised. I went to a restaurant afterwards, paid $10.00, and had myself a succulent two-pound lobster that was served in less than 45 minutes. So much for dinner boxing shows.

RANDY GORDON

▲ NEW YORK CITY — Felt Forum — Pete Padilla, 135, New York, turned in one of the New Year's biggest upsets when he won a split decision over Managua, Nicaragua's Marco Barahona, 136, in the first of four 10-rounders in the first card held in New York City since the death of Willie Classen.

This was only the ninth pro fight for Padilla, and his first 10-rounder, but he looked like a world class contender, sending left hooks through the holes of Barahona's speedy defense. Pete has been schooled very well.

The official scoring was as follows: judge Carol Castellano, 6-3-1, Padilla; judge Harold Lederman, 5-4-1, Barahona; referee Arthur Mercante, 5-5, a draw in rounds, but 7-5 in points, Padilla. It was that close.

Marco, inactive since his win over Ralph Racine, admitted he'd been hurt by the long lay-off. "I'm not making excuses, but those nine months away from action hurt. But I don't mean to take anything away from him (Padilla). He's a real good boxer . . . real talented."

"I thought it was close in the 10th," said Padilla, "but I thought I had it. I wanted to finish the last half of the round strong. I'm serious about this whole boxing thing, and believe I can win a title some day."

Padilla is now 8-0-1 with one win inside the distance. Barahona is 12-2-1 with three kayoes.

The second 10-round bout saw New York's Juan LaPorte, 128¾, administer a beating to Jean LaPointe, Montreal. If LaPointe is Canada's top featherweight, and he's supposed to be, according to their ratings, then it's no wonder George Chuvalo was Canadian heavyweight champ till he was past the age of 40. LaPointe is slow with no reflexes and, at 130, he looked grossly overweight. About the only thing he can do is take it. He took a lot from LaPorte before referee Joe Cortez stopped it at 1:30 of the seventh.

LaPorte is now 12-1 with six kayoes. LaPointe is 15-5-1 with nine.

The third 10-rounder got the most attention from the local newsboys. Carmelo Negron, 124¼, Aguas Buenas, Puerto Rico, administered a body beating to New York's Bobby "Wildman" Alexander, 126½, flooring him in the third and ninth rounds. The Wildman's best frame was in the seventh, when he landed hard rights to Carmelo's jaw. He shot his bolt, however, and the eighth round found him totally exhausted. Referee Joe Santarpia could have stopped it in the ninth.

Instead, he stopped it in the 10th round, after one minute and 20 seconds of comparatively mild action. Why'd he do it? Possibly because State Senator Roy Goodman was at ringside with commission chairman Jack Prenderville. The ghost of Willie Classen lingers on.

Willie's father had made a brief speech after the second prelim bout. Speaking in Spanish, he said that Willie "fought, and eventually died, in the ring; but he was doing what he liked and did best — fighting."

Negron has won all 11 of his pro fights with kayoes. Alexander is now 12-6-1 with four knockouts.

Alexander's manager, Bob O'Neill, took exception to Santarpia's stopping of the contest and kneed him in the groin. Santarpia slapped O'Neill in return, and commissioner Prenderville said O'Neill would be called in for a hearing Monday. (The card was held on Friday night.)

The last 10-round bout saw New York's John LoCicero, 156½, send Carlos Betancourt, 159, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, down on the seat of his trunks with a right to the jaw. Betancourt got up, but he wobbled and referee Arthur Mercante stopped the contest. Time: 1:32 of the first round. It was then discovered that Betancourt had sprained his right ankle on his way to the canvas.

In the lone six-rounder, Barry Funches, 192, New York, scored a points win over Ali Allen, 207, Jersey City. This was their third meeting. Referee: Santarpia.

Four rounders: Mark Medal, 150½, Jersey City, TKO'd John Davis, 154, Brooklyn, at 1:51 of the second round. Referee Joe Cortez stopped the contest. Jorge Vasquez, 121½ made a successful pro debut, outscoring fellow New Yorker Santos Cruz, 125. Referee: Cortez.

HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

▲ SYRACUSE — War Memorial Auditorium — The six-bout card presented by the Canastota Boxing Club was the first professional show in New York State since the fatal Willie Classen bout in New York City on November 23, 1979.

Everything went along in great shape, according to Dr. Edwin Campbell, chief physician of the New York State Athletic Commission, one of the two doctors in attendance. "Physical examinations for the participants prior to the bouts were very strict, and we had qualified referees in New Yorker Billy Graham and local Frankie Adams. We were well prepared in case any action had to be taken to avoid the possibility of serious injury to any of the fighters," said Dr. Campbell.

Jack Graham, of the New York State Athletic Commission, was in attendance to supervise the action.

Two local favorites, Rocky Gratto, Geneva, and Greg Sorrentino, Syracuse, shared top 10-round billing, and both came out winners in good fashion.

Fratto, 154, scored his 19th straight win as a pro, unanimously decisioning Jaime Rodriguez, 154¼, Lowell, Mass. Rocky unleashed many punches against the New Englander, who showed little offense. Rocky scored strongly in the fifth

round with kidney and body blows, but Rodriguez, with his cover-up style, could not be put away. All three officials scored it 10-0 for the 21-year-old Fratto.

Greg Sorrentino, 199, Syracuse, making his first home appearance in almost two years, unanimously decisioned Don Halpin, 221, Concord, Mass. Sorrentino was able to move out of the way of the plodding Halpin and pile up the points with quick combinations. Greg jarred Don with ripping uppercuts a couple of times, but the heavier Halpin weathered the artillery. Early in the fifth round, Sorrentino took a glancing right hand as he moved away from Halpin. Greg was off banance and slipped to the canvas, where he was given a count. Sorrentino dominated the bout, but Halpin's swinging style made the Syracusan cautious. The official cards read 8-1-1 (twice) and 9-1, all for Sorrentino. Greg is handled by Carmen Basilio and John DeJohn.

Billy Graham, who attended the prescribed courses in New York City, handled the main bouts in very capable fashion.

Tim LaValley, 141½, Troy, New York, won a close unanimous decision over Frankie Minigan, 148, Rochester, New York, in a six-round bout that had the crowd cheering. LaValley kept the punches coming at Minigan, but the heavier Rochester lad stunned him a couple of times in the fifth round and dropped him. Tim came back full of fight again to win it. This was LaValley's second win in 10 days and it evened up his series with Minigan, 1-1. Tim, 7-4 with six kayoes, is managed by Dave Zyglewicz. Frankie is watched over by the veteran Frankie Verna.

In another scheduled six-round bout, Steve Arvin, 164, Binghamton, New York, TKO'd Charles Young, 165, Newark, N.J., at 0:50 of the second round. Arvin dropped Young twice in that frame, prompting referee Frankie Adams to halt the one-sided affair. Arvin, handled by George James, is now 11-1.

Joe Britt, 175½, the 1979 New York Empire Games champion, made his professional debut by making quick work of Milt Hopkins, 178, Newark, N.J. Britt dropped Hopkins twice in the first round and scored a TKO in only 1:38. Joe is handled by Syracusan Billy Harris.

Furgan Ali, 183¾, Newark, kayoed Lou Vallar, 186½, Syracuse, with an overhand right in 2:49 of the third in a scheduled four-rounder. Vallar was making his pro debut.

JIM LEO

NEVADA

▲ LAS VEGAS — "I fought stupid. I fell for all his tricks. I did not move and jab all the time like I should have."

These were the words of a despondent Josef Nsubuga moments after he had suffered a TKO at the end of the fourth round in his battle against the legendary Roberto Duran.

Their welterweight bout, at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion, proved to a doubting world that Duran, the former world lightweight champion, might yet be as impressive as a welterweight as he was as king of the lightweights

In a previous bout, also at Caesars Palace, the famous "Hands of Stone" had turned to clay, as Duran gave a plodding, unimpressive performance against little-known Zeferino Gonzales of Las Vegas.

But his first bout of the new decade saw flashes of the familiar Roberto Duran, in all his brutal brilliance.

Duran, trimmed down to 146½ pounds, swarmed all over the 148-pound Nsubuga (who barely made the weight limit the day before).

Nsubuga, a native of Uganda, who now fights out of Oslo, Norway, was considered a formidable opponent, with a record of 15-1, including 13 knockouts.

But this was no comparison to Roberto Duran's awesome history of 68-1, with 53 kayoes.

The game Ugandan employed some clever strategy in the first two rounds, constantly moving and jabbing; and eluding the Duran dynamite with lightning speed and skill.

Nsubuga landed some slick combination punches — a few so potent they jerked Duran's head back. Nsubuga's early performance was, in fact, so impressive that he was awarded the second round on the cards of all three judges.

But the third round was a different story, as Nsubuga's giant heart over-ruled his head, and he attempted to fight one-on-one with the mighty Duran.

It was then that the "Hands of Stone" took advantage of his over-anxious opponent. Duran backed Nsubuga consistently into the ropes and pounded him to both sides of the rib cage — the strategy that took him to the lightweight title.

Nsubuga attempted to punch back, but his strength and experience were no match for those of the ferocious former champion. A Duran right cross near the end of the fourth proved his undoing.

The wobbly-legged Nsubuga barely made it to his corner, and had to be held while sitting on his stool.

It was then that veteran trainer Eddie Futch, acting as cornerman, proved the wisdom of experience, as he refused to let his fighter continue. Both Nsubuga and his trainer, Harold Swenson, wanted to continue the fight; and an argument ensued in the corner between Swenson and Futch.

Referee Richard Green approached the corner; and was told by Futch to stop the fight. Green complied; and Duran was officially awarded a TKO at 3:00 of the fourth round. (The fight was scheduled for 12.)

After the fight, the venerable Futch explained his decision: "There was no way I was going to let this kid go out again and risk a serious injury. It was obvious that he couldn't win the fight — after he got so over-anxious in the third round. So why put a helpless fighter back in the ring when there's no chance to win a fight — but a possible chance to lose a life?"

Futch's decision was reminiscent of the last Ali-Frazier fight, when he refused to let a battered Joe Frazier come out for the 15th round.

A jubilant Roberto Duran, meanwhile, paid tribute to his game opponent, saying: "He's a very intelligent boxer. He was much stronger and faster than I expected. But I think I had him a little confused. I didn't stalk him to the ropes. He's the one that backed into the corners himself. I had to keep looking for him!"

This 68th Duran victory puts the eyes of the boxing world on the possible fight of the century: Roberto Duran, the number one contender, against world welterweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard.

Duran declared: "I'm ready right now to fight Sugar Ray Leonard. And for that fight, I'll be in the best shape of my whole life!"

The Duran camp is already formulating plans for their title bout against Leonard. Duran's manager, Panama tycoon Carlos Eleta, confided: "In my mind there is not the slightest doubt that Roberto will take the title away from Sugar Ray Leonard; and chalk up the second championship of his brilliant career!"

Michael "Dynamite" Dokes threw a few of his now-familiar roses to the ladies at ringside . . . did a bit of showboating . . . and then got down to serious business as the bell rang for round one!

It was the one and only round of a fight that saw Dokes destroy newcomer Earl Tripp in the most masterful job of his unbeaten career.

The hefty, handsome Dokes, at 217, was 20 pounds heavier than his hapless opponent; and the 197 pound Tripp, suffering from a disadvantage in both weight and experience, hit the canvas three times in the first round. He automatically lost the bout under Nevada's three-knockdown rule.

The scheduled heavyweight 10-rounder was the semi-main event of the five-bout card.

Tripp, a native of New York, who now resides in Las Vegas, was fighting his first televised bout; and his over-anxiety for the TV debut no doubt cost him his early loss.

Tripp came out swinging at the opening bell. But scarcely had he lifted a glove when the speedy Dokes dealt him a double punch that sent him to the canvas for the first time.

The combination was a left hook to the body followed by an uppercut to the head. This particular combination, Dokes later confided to your *Ring* reporter, is his personal specialty; and is the strategy which he employs in every bout of his career.

Following the initial knockdown, Tripp struggled to his feet and regained his composure long enough to land a couple of stinging blows to Dokes' head and body.

This set off "Dynamite's" fuse; and he smashed a straight right into Tripp's fragile jaw. Down went Tripp a second time. And a second time the gutsy Tripp got up. But no sooner had Earl landed on his feet and attempted his own defensive jab, than the lightning-fast Dokes pinned him to his own corner. Here Dokes delivered a couple of quick jabs and a wicked right cross that sent the hapless Las Vegan to the canvas for the third and final time.

The bell ending the round sounded as referee Ferd Hernandez reached the count of 8. Hernandez was ordered by officials of the Nevada State Athletic Commission to halt the fight . . . under Nevada's prevailing three-knockdown rule!

Following his astounding one-round demolition job, Michael Dokes was a serene and confident young man. His personality was a far cry from the fast-talking braggart who had eked out a decision last fall over veteran Jimmy Young.

Dokes was all charm and all business as he explained his amazing victory: "I knew he was going to come at me right away; and I was ready for him. I planned my strategy accordingly; and I knew it would work because I'm much stronger and more experienced!

"I also had my timing down to a fine science. After he went down for the second time, I knew he'd be laying for me with a long jab. So, before he could get to me, I went over to his corner and took care of business. I nailed him with a great right cross just five seconds before the end of the round!"

Dokes continued: "I'm glad they stopped the fight when they did. He was in no condition to go on; and if he'd fought any more, he could have been seriously hurt. That's how deaths happen in the ring. I'd much rather see him healthy and able to continue his career than to know I had hurt him seriously!"

With a newly-acquired grace, Dokes then made reference to his narrow-decision victory over Jimmy Young. Although the enmity between Dokes and Young was apparent throughout that bout, "Dynamite" declared: "I feel fortunate to have beaten a seasoned fighter like Jimmy Young. Shortly after our fight, he went over to Europe and demolished John Gardner, who's the British heavyweight champion. So you know Jimmy is still a great fighter!"

Butting and low blows marked much of the Dokes-Young battle; and "Dynamite" pointed out that no such action had taken place in his brief bout against Earl Tripp.

"You notice", he said, "there was no butting, no low blows, and no showing-off. I just knew he'd go head-hunting, and I took care of business accordingly!"

The win over Tripp brings Dokes' enviable, unbeaten record to 16-0. And Michael Dokes has laid careful plans for his climb toward the World Title.

"I've got time", declared Dokes. "I just turned 21 last August. I'm going to wait until they rectify the title split between the WBC and the WBA, and then I'll make all the right and "prudent" moves toward getting my title shot. I'm confident I'll be the world heavyweight champion one day soon; and when I am, I'll have the undisputed title!"

Meanwhile, a disheartened Earl Tripp and his manager, Stan Tischler, have decided to match Earl's future fights in the Cruiserweight division. Tripp, whose top weight is 200, is at a definite disadvantage against the massive heavyweights like Michael Dokes.

"Earl had the heart and the guts and the talent", said Tischler. "I think you might well see a Champion if we stick to the Cruiserweights!"

Joe Willie Johnson, of North Las Vegas, gave away seven and a half pounds and a unanimous decision to his heavier opponent, Johnny Compo, of West Palm Beach, Florida.

The 137½ lb. Johnson and the 145 lb. Compo, tangled in a six-round preliminary.

Compo was, by far, the better of the two boxers, but Johnson put up a game battle in an ineffective game plan.

Compo stalked Johnson from the opening bell, using a strong right hand to keep him on the run and to hurt him effectively in the third round.

Johnson, though dazed, refused to go down; and recovered

UNITED STATES RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Mike Weaver (Calif.)
1. Earnie Shavers (Ohio)
2. Leroy Jones (Colo.)
3. Leon Spinks (Mo.)
4. Michael Dokes (Ohio)
5. Gerry Cooney (N.Y.)
6. Scott LeDoux (Minn.)
7. Ossie Ocasio (P.R.)
8. Willie Shannon (Ore.)
9. Pinklon Thomas (Mich.)
10. Mike Koranicki, (Pa.)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: James Scott (N.J.)
1. Yaqui Lopez (Calif.)
2. Eddie Gregory (N.Y.)
3. Mike Rossman (N.J.)
4. Marvin Camel (Mont.)
5. Ramon Ranquello (N.J.)
6. Carlos DeLeon (P.R.)
7. Jerry Martin (Pa.)
8. Michael Spinks (Mo.)
9. Jesse Burnett (Calif.)
10. Paul Ramos (Ohio)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Marvin Hagler (Mass.)
1. Ronnie Harris (Ohio)
2. Curtis Parker (Pa.)
3. Mike Colbert (Ore.)
4. David Love (Calif.)
5. Dwight Davison (Mich.)
6. Wilford Scypion (Texas)
7. Ray Seales (Wash.)
8. Roger Leonard (Md.)
9. Ernie Singletary (Pa.)
10. Sammy NeSmith (Ind.)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Steve Delgado (P.R.)
1. Tony Chiaverini (Mo.)
2. Nick Ortiz (P.R.)
3. Rocky Mosley Jr. (Nev.)
4. Nino Gonzalez (N.J.)
5. Johnny Sullivan (Ore.)
6. Jerry Cheatham (Ariz.)
7. Alvin Anderson (Md.)
8. Zeferino Gonzalez (Calif.)
9. Bobby Watts (Pa.)
10. John LoCicero (N.Y.)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Wilfred Benitez (P.R.)
2. Thomas Hearns (Mich.)
3. Pete Ranzany (Calif.)
4. Angel Espada (P.R.)
5. Randy Shields (Calif.)
6. Adolfo Viruet (Calif.)
7. Manuel Jiminez (P.R.)
8. Domingo Ayala (P.R.)
9. Johnny Turner (N.Y.)
10. Luis Resto (N.Y.)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Saoul Mamby (N.Y.)
2. Esteban DeJesus (P.R.)
3. Bruce Curry (Texas)
4. Larry Stanton (N.Y.)
5. Sammy Ayala (Texas)
6. Willie Rodriguez (Pa.)
7. Ruby Ortiz (N.Y.)
8. Sean Mannion (Mass.)
9. Tony Petronelli (Mass.)
10. Jimmy Corkum (Mass.)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Howard Davis Jr. (N.Y.)
2. Johnny Lira (Ill.)
3. Aaron Pryor (Ohio)
4. Hilmer Kenty (Mich.)
5. Jorge Morales (P.R.)
6. Edwin Viruet (P.R.)
7. Andrew Ganigan (Hawaii)
8. Herman Montes (Calif.)
9. Reynaldo Zaragoza (Calif.)
10. Gonzello Montellano (Calif.)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Frankie Baltazar (Calif.)
2. Bobby Chacon (Calif.)
3. Roberto Elizondo (Texas)
4. Greg Coverson (Mich.)
5. Arturo Leon (Ariz.)
6. Ernest Bing (N.J.)
7. Jerome Artis (Pa.)
8. Luke Ervin (N.J.)
9. Alex Alatore (Calif.)
10. Roy Hernandez (Texas)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Reuben Castillo (Calif.)
1. Danny Lopez (Calif.)
2. Mike Ayala (Texas)
3. Rocky Lockridge (N.J.)
4. Gerald Hayes (N.J.)
5. Abdul Bey (Haw.)
6. Fel Clemente (Calif.)
7. Warren Matthews (La.)
8. Alberto Collazo (Pa.)
9. Carmelo Negron (N.Y.)
10. Juan LaPorte (N.Y.)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Nicky Perez (Ariz.)
1. Juan (Kid) Meza (Calif.)
2. Javier Flores (Utah)
3. David Ramalho (Mass.)
4. William Berry (N.J.)
5. Derrik Holmes (Va.)
6. Earl Large (Ariz.)
7. Cookie Valencia (Utah)
8. Melvin Johnson (Calif.)
9. Jaime Garza (Texas)
10. Alfonso Evans (Pa.)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion: Jeff Chandler (Pa.)
1. Alberto Davila (Calif.)
2. Leo Randolph (Wash.)
3. Oscar Muniz (Calif.)
4. Eddie Logan (Calif.)
5. Julian Solis (P.R.)
6. Alberto Sandoval (Calif.)
7. Andres Hernandez (P.R.)
8. Andres Torres (P.R.)
9. David Capo (N.Y.)
10. Johnny Carter (Pa.)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Joey Olivo (Calif.)
2. Orlando Maldonado (P.R.)
3. Willie Jensen (Nev.)
4. Fred Jackson (Tenn.)
5. Jose Ortiz (P.R.)
6. Adelaido Galindo (Texas)
7. Mike Stuart (Calif.)
8. Mario Chavez (Calif.)
9. Javier Mendoza (Calif.)
10. Arturo Tebaqui (Ariz.)

sufficiently to show some aggression in the last three rounds.

Johnson, however, kept walking into Compo's right, and the wrongway strategy cost him a unanimous decision.

The judges score cards read: Lou Tabat, 58-55; Duane Ford, 58-56; Chuck Minker, 59-55.

The referee was Ferd Hernandez.

It was a middleweight walk-out bout, but the audience barely had time to walk out of the Pavilion before the bout was over — at 2:53 of the first round.

The scheduled 10-rounder saw dynamic Dwight Davison, 161, of Detroit, demolish Simon Smith, 159, of Panama, with a smashing left to the head.

Smith was scarcely active during the brief bout, and landed only a few feeble jabs before he hit the canvas. He made no attempt to get to his feet as referee Richard Green administered the 10-count.

The K.O. victory brings Davison's awesome unbeaten record to 24-0 with 18 knockouts.

Many fans and experts hail the young Detroit dynamo as the coming world middleweight champion.

Davison, brimming with justified confidence, declared after the bout that he could beat both champion Vito Antuofermo and number one contender Marvin Hagler if given the chance!

Leroy Caldwell, the Las Vegas heavyweight whose physique resembles that of a Black Hercules, was a picture of dejection after his recent battle against Brooklyn bomber, Kevin Isaac.

The judges ruled the fight a draw; and the decision pleased neither the fighters nor the fans, who let out some ear-splitting boos as the scores were announced.

The 10-round heavyweight action was the opening bout on the card.

The massive maulers fought their hearts out for the entire 10 rounds. Both the 204 pound Caldwell and the 201 pound Isaac sustained severe hand injuries early in the fight; but neither was deterred by his pain.

Caldwell appeared to be the aggressor through most of the fight, and he dealt Isaac a severe pounding on the ropes in the middle of the fifth round. But Isaac drew on his wealth of experience as sparring partner for WBC champion Larry Holmes, and countered Caldwell's blows with desperate fury.

Both fighters showed more fury than strategy, and the entire bout was packed with action. The final frame was a barnburner, with each man fighting desperately to take the round and the decision.

But victory eluded both. The judges scoring read: Lou Tabat, 96-94 for Caldwell; Duane Ford, 96-95 for Isaac; and Charles Minker, 95-95, even.

The referee was Joey Curtis.

After the fight, both men suffered severely swollen hands. And both were taken immediately to the hospital for treatment of their right-hand injuries. Caldwell's entire right arm was encased in a sling, while Isaac's right hand was swathed in bandages for several days.

Paid attendance — 2,884. Gross — $40,570.

The five-bout card was presented by Don King Productions in association with Caesars Palace and was nationally broadcast over CBS.

SHIRLEY NORMAN

OHIO

▲ CANTON — Memorial Civic Center— Boxing returned to Canton for the holidays, and its return was heralded by a turnout of 2,591 fight fans. Promoter Jeff Harris (whose brother, Ronnie, headlined the evening's card) was ecstatic over the attendance and began laying plans for a follow-up card — this one to again feature brother Ron, but this time in defense of his NABF middleweight crown.

It was Ronnie Harris who gave the crowd a demonstration of boxing prowess the likes of which had not been seen in some time — especially coming from Ron Harris. The middleweight contender made good on pre-fight publicity that declared the emergence of "a new Ronnie Harris." If one word can be used to describe this new gladiator that word is *devastating*.

Round one saw the Canton middleweight utilizing *all* the skills God has given him in an all-out attack, an attack that created the impression that Leo Saenz, 158, Baltimore Maryland, had no defense against the onslaught of the 160-pound Harris. An examination of the contest showed combinations of two and three and four punches with no return from the game Saenz. Harris continually shifted his attack — firing shots to the head, then dropping down to hook punishingly to the body. A short right hook staggered Saenz at the end of the fourth round, but it was merely more handwriting on the wall. Ronnie Harris was in total control of the fight. By the fifth round, Saenz began to show the effects of the barrage he was taking. A puffiness began to show around his eyes, his forward movement had visibly slowed, and he began to clinch at every opportunity. Finally, at the conclusion of round eight, the referee signaled the bout finished, and Ronnie Harris' hand was raised in triumph.

A jubilant Harris addressed the crowd at the end of the fight, thanking them for attending, and offering to stop afterwards to sign autographs and "shoot the bull."

The semi-final event turned out to be a war. Robert Mullins, 125, Spartansburg, South Carolina, retained his unblemished record by capturing a 10-round split decision from William Whipple, 126, Youngstown, Ohio. Whipple, at one time the leading featherweight in the area, was returning to his home state after a sojourn out west. Most ringsiders agreed that a furious 10th-round rally won the nod for Mullins. Promoter Harris has promised his fans that these two warriors would definitely appear on future cards.

Gary Coates, 147, Alliance, Ohio, kayoed Sammy Rookard, 145, Spartansburg, South Carolina, at 2:37 of the seventh round.

Sam Long, 174, Akron, Ohio, kayoed Ron Vaughn, 173, Parkersburg, West Virginia, at 2:49 of the first round.

Bobby Plegge, 140, Salem, Ohio, won a unanimous decision over Dale Gordon, 138, Moundsville, West Virginia, six.

THOMAS JACOBS

▲ COLUMBUS — Veterans Memorial Auditorium — Bill "Dynamite" Douglas, 183, Columbus, scored his seventh straight knockout, starching Freddie Groves, 176, Linden. Douglas came out for the first round in his usual cautious style, content in seeing what kind of tricks his opponent had. Groves appeared to be a very clever boxer during the

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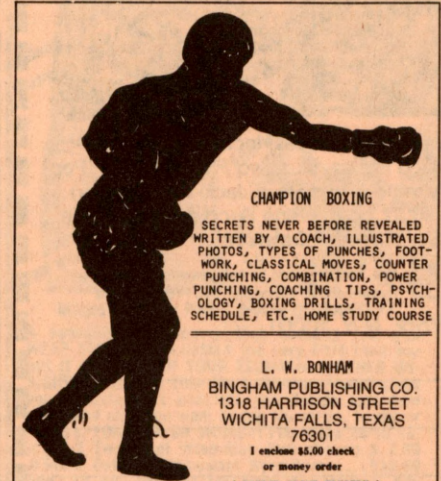

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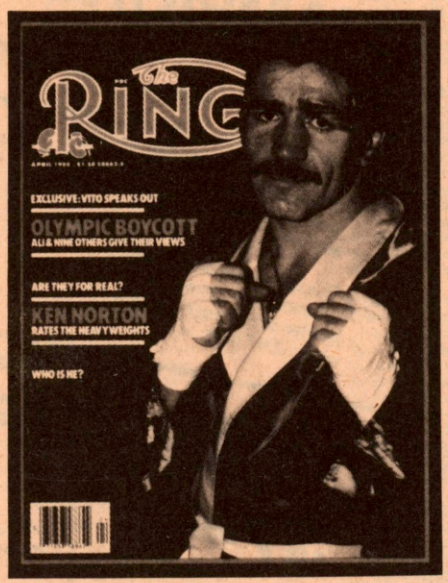

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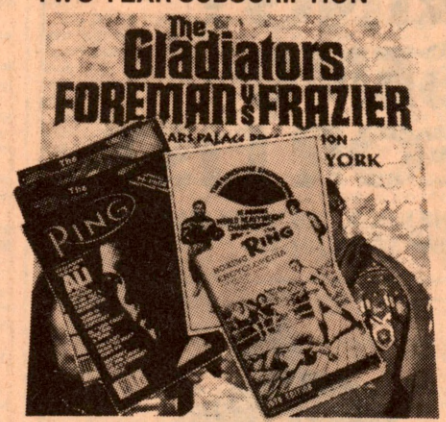

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first round, jabbing, moving in and out, and trying to get Douglas within bombing range. The second round started with Groves trying to stick and move, only to find himself moved into a corner, with Douglas on top of him. Douglas caught Groves with a hard right hand under the heart, and followed with a left hook to the chin. Groves sagged and was on his way down when he was tagged with another left hook, this time to the temple. The referee had begun his count when Groves' handlers decided that their man had had enough and climbed into the ring waving the towel. The fight had been scheduled for 10 rounds.

In what was billed as the second half of a double main event, Bennie Mitchell stopped the veteran Pete "Acorn" Henry, No. Philadelphia, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10. Mitchell had Henry on the ropes throughout most of the fight, scoring at will. Henry came out of his shell on occasion to score with a few counter punches and uppercuts. In the sixth round, it was all Mitchell as he relentlessly bombarded Henry with vicious body shots and combinations to the head. With 1:15 remaining in the round Bennie unleashed a flurry of lefts and rights, sending Pete Henry to the canvas. Henry made a gallant effort to rise, but only made it to his knees by the time the referee had finished his 10-count. The young Mitchell, a middleweight, is a very good, clever boxer and will be a force to be reckoned with in the future.

Frankie Schram, 204, Columbus, returned to winning ways, knocking out Renaldo Long, 198, Akron, in the first round. Long went after Schram from the sound of the opening bell and cornered the veteran Schram, landing a few solid right hands. Frank tied his opponent up in a clinch, getting out of trouble. It was Frank Schramm's turn to assume the role of the aggressor. Schram threw three jabs at Long, hooked him, feinted another hook, and then landed the most picture perfect right hand on the jaw of his opponent that had been seen for a long time. Long crumbled in a heap to the canvas, and rose on very wobbly legs at the count of nine. Schram stepped in for the kill and finished his opponent off with another right hand. The fight had been scheduled for eight rounds.

Greg Netter, 147, Columbus, remained undefeated, scoring a sixth round TKO over game but outclassed Calvin Straughter. It was all Netter throughout the fight, constantly on top of Straughter landing punch after punch without answer. Netter's record is now seven wins against no losses. Local promoter Joe Jackson announced that Netter will be elevated to 10-round status and placed in the main event on his next card. Netter's opponent will be Manning Galloway who owns an impressive record of 14 wins and two losses.

Ray Edgerley, 225, Columbus, a former varsity heavyweight wrestler at Ohio State University, and junior olympics champion, made his pro debut a success in stopping Gene Travis, 195, Huntington W. Va., with a knockout in the third round of a scheduled six. Edgerly sent Travis to the floor three times before landing a right hand bomb to the temple with 0:56 remaining in the round. Travis was out cold and had to be helped to his corner after being counted out. Edgerly can definitely punch and will have a good future if he gets the proper training.

Bob 'Bad News' Whaley, 225, Columbus, knocked out Ramon Scott, 210, Trenton, N.J. in the second round of a scheduled six. Scott was ahead on the judges' cards when Whaley came from the floor with a right hand that actually lifted Scott off his feet, and sent him flying through the ropes and on to the ring apron. Scott rolled over the bottom strand of rope and was counted out as he lay flat on his back. Whaley is an improved fighter since his Chicago loss to James "Quick" Tillis.

Tough Tony Johnson won a decision over Kevin Straughter in a six rounder. Tough Tony has been around for years and keeps getting better with age.

Chico "The Bee" Rodriguez, 135, Columbus, spoiled the pro debut of David Alexander by scoring a second round TKO. Rodriguez had Alexander in trouble early in the first round and the young Alexander couldn't recover. Alexander spent the first round on the ropes catching punches. Early in the second round Alexander got tagged with a vicious Rodriguez right hand, and was out on his feet. Referee Dan O'Malley stopped the fight with 2:10 remaining in the round. It was a wise decision, as the young man was totally defenseless.

This was the largest card, bout wise that Columbus has seen for a long time. The fans were excited and all got their money's worth.

▲ COLUMBUS — Veterans Memorial Auditorium — A near capacity crowd was on hand to witness a night of action packed boxing entertainment. In the 10-round main event, young Manning Galloway, 142, So. Columbus, won a unanimous decision over previously unbeaten Greg Netter, 140, No. Columbus. For the first three rounds, both fighters were cautious; the southpaw Galloway circling, jabbing; Netter stalking. In the fourth round, Galloway was scoring with stiff right jabs and hard lefts, moving in and out and dancing away from trouble when Netter decided to go on the warpath. Netter trapped Galloway on the ropes and caught him with a very sharp left hook, sending young Manning to the canvas. Galloway was on his feet at the count of five and spent the rest of the round staying away from his opponent, weathering the storm. Netter was constantly stalking the clever Galloway but couldn't catch him. Each time the northside Netter went on the offensive he found himself tied up by Galloway. In the eighth round Netter was staggered by a Galloway left. By the ninth round, Galloway had built up a lead on points and stayed out of Greg Netters knockout range. In the tenth and final round, Netter chased his opponent, trying for the kayo, but to no avail. Both fighters put on a tremendous display of boxing skill and showed lots of heart. The judges scored the fight 98-96, 98-92, 100-90, Galloway. This was the first time either fighter had been featured in a main event.

Bennie Mitchell, 170, Cols., scored a fourth round TKO over Pete 'Acorn' Henry, 165, No. Phila., in a scheduled eight-rounder. Henry was floored in the first round with a thundering Mitchell right. The second and third round found Mitchell pitching, and Acorn catching. In the fourth round Henry was laying on the ropes getting tagged by everything Mitchell could throw. Cuts were opening around Acorns eyes and he was hurt. Henry was out on his feet and couldn't fall. His corner decided that he had had enough and threw in the towel just as referee Larry Bentley stepped in to stop it himself.

Tony Rutlege, 131, Columbus, won a six round split decision over Chico 'The Bee' Rodriguez, 130, New York City. Chico

'The Bee' was stung a few times in the six rounder, but had the southpaw Rutlege in trouble on occasion. This fight was very close and the decision could have gone either way.

Rodney Cupe, 165, Columbus, won a unanimous decision over the well traveled Willie Brown, 160, Akron. Cupe had Brown in serious trouble several times during the four round encounter but couldn't put him away.

In the evenings only heavyweight contest, Big Vic Wallace 214, Whitehall, knocked out Bob 'Bad News' Whaley in the second round of a scheduled six. Wallace proved to be too much for Bob Whaley as Whaley was in trouble several times in the first round, taking punishing body shots and right hands to the head. The second round showed Whaley trying to take the offensive, only to get caught flush on the jaw by a Wallace right. Whaley sagged, pitched forward on his face and remained down for the entire ten count. This was quite an accomplishment for Vic Wallace as Whaley is no slouch and is considered a decent fighter.

The judges for the evenings contest were Sam Lowenthal, Babe Hampton, and Tom Keyes. Referees Roy Houpe, Larry Bentley and Tony Johnson. Promoter Joe Jackson should be given much credit for putting on a very classy show with loads of excitement.

JOHN E. O'MALLEY

OKLAHOMA

▲ OKLAHOMA CITY — Fairgrounds International Building — U.S.B.A. lightweight champion Sean O'Grady, Oklahoma's "Bubblegum Bomber," won again, but(t) it was a strange bout with a strange ending. Ramiro Hernandez, a short, stocky club fighter from Mexico, failed to come out for the bell signelling the beginning of the fifth round.

As long as it lasted, the fight was a good one, although both fighters initially seemed to have trouble with the springy floor of the portable ring. O'Grady, 20, was the aggressor in the first two rounds, but the Mexican did well enough while backpedalling and counter-punching. In three, Hernandez decided to take charge. O'Grady's father-trainer, OKC fight promoter Pat O'Grady, started yelling, "No, No!" to his son, but Sean mistook the instructions for "Go, Go!" and began to mix it up with his wildly swinging opponent. Sean came out of the final exchange of the round with blood dripping from his right eye. The corner managed to close the wound, but Hernandez reopened it in the fourth. O'Grady, however, followed his father's instructions to the letter, and went after the Mexican's body with a vengeance. Hernandez failed to come out for the fifth.

Apparently referee LeRoy Miller thought that Hernandez had suffered some broken ribs. Hernandez later said that he was OK. "He told *me* that I had some broken ribs," said the pudgy fighter. "It didn't make any difference," he continued through an interpreter. "That ref wouldn't stop the fight no matter how bad O'Grady's cuts were. I would have had to knock him out." O'Grady has never been off his feet in 70 pro starts. Hernandez, 32, claimed this was the first time he ever quit on the stool.

Both fighters complained about the other's weight. The O'Grady's also complained that the third round cut was from a butt, not a solid punch. Even the ref complained. "I'm not refereeing another O'Grady fight, ever; period," said Miller. Perhaps it's just as well: Miller can't seem to win for losing on these controversial O'Grady decisions.

O'Grady, who had to be taken to a hospital and worked on by a plastic surgeon after the bout was apologetic. "If you try to dance with someone who doesn't know how — someone who is stepping on your toes and stuff, it makes you both look bad. If you're dancing with someone who is really sharp, it makes you both look good," he explained. "Fighting these awkward club fighters is a lot rougher than fighting a really good boxer. I'd rather fight Espana or Watt anyday," he said. "But they don't want to fight Sean," chimed-in his father, Pat. "For $100,000, we'll fight any human and most beasts," continued the elder O'Grady, "but they don't want any part of us."

O'Grady is scheduled to meet former British Empire lightweight champ, Al Ford of Canada on February 9th in Oklahoma City.

Perhaps the best fight of the night ended in a draw between unbeaten OKC featherweight favorite Frank Newton, and Wilborn Lawson of Ft. Worth. It was not Newton's best showing. Newton's timing was off, and he had nothing but trouble from the bobbing/weaving Texas southpaw. The two judges both scored the eight round semi-main event even at 58-58. The referee scored 60-58 for Newton. However, in Oklahoma (where there is no boxing commission), a potential draw must be decided by the unanimous decision of two judges, not one judge and the referee. Therefore, in this case, the referee's nod to Newton did not count. A rematch is unquestionably in order.

In other bouts, OKC native Monty Masters won his pro debut as a heavyweight against Paul Lawson of Fort Worth. The bout was halted at 2:46 of the fourth. Welterweight Mike Elzey, OKC, beat Steve Chandler of Edmond when Chandler failed to answer the bell for the fourth. Local welterweight favorite Lorenzo Jones stopped Frank Lawson, Ft. Worth, in 2:15 of the fourth.

▲ TULSA — Civic Center — A former Tulsan, heavyweight James "Quick" Tillis, KO'd his twelfth straight opponent before a good crowd of approximately 1600 paying customers. Veteran stiff Al "Memphis" Jones managed to look bad backing away until 2:35 of the fourth. Tillis scored effectively with his left from the opening bell. Jones, whose pro record is something like 25 losses against five wins, went down at the end of the second and again at the end of the third, before going down for the count in the fourth. The fight was to begin a comeback for Jones, 36, after four years absence from the ring. Tillis, 20, was relaxed and methodical. He was, in fact, everything but "quick." The ad man's hype was better than this main event, much to the disappointment of the fans.

Popular local featherweight Al "Bubba" Thompson won a disqualification over Simmie Black of Memphis with only four seconds remaining in the eighth and final round of the semi-main event. The bout was unquestionably the highlight of the card. Thompson took the fight to Black, and was ahead on all cards when the bout came to it's unlikely conclusion. However, Black's ring experience, his extremely effective counter-punching from the ropes, and his inexhaustable bag of tricks made the contest much closer than Thompson's local fans

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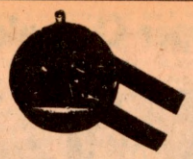

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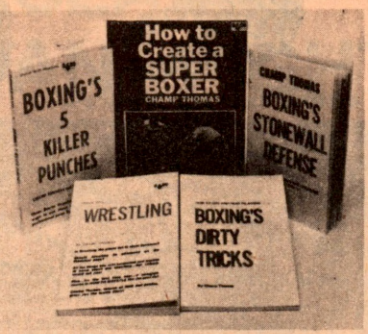

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would want to admit. Thompson was the aggressor and threw a lot of leather, but Black fought with his head low, and slipped most of Thompson's punches, or caught them on his shoulders. With only seconds to go in the eighth, Thompson sent Black to the canvas with a right. Thompson headed for a neutral corner, but Black sprang up, lept past the referee, and began attacking Thompson from behind. Black later claimed that he slipped, and since referee Newt Brown had not started a count, he assumed that the fight was still on. Brown disqualified the Memphis fighter with only four seconds left in the bout. Although Thompson took the decision, Tulsans would enjoy the crowd-pleasing antics of Black again in a rematch. Thompson will be main-event caliber soon.

In a "featured" bout, middleweight Bryan Briggs scored a "knockout" over William Curtis of McAlester after 2:35 of the third. Briggs, a bearded, middle-aged office worker, claims he had pro fights in 1970. Curtis was clearly the better boxer, but he was also clearly out of shape. Briggs had absolutely no defense and no jab. Allegedly a converted southpaw, he led with his right and lunged with his head. Curtis, on the other hand, showed a good jab, and counter-punched effectively while circling back and to the right. By the end of the first round, Briggs' face looked like scrambled eggs with ketchup. However, time took it's toll on Curtis, who collected his check after allowing Briggs to "KO" him with a right to the shoulder blade mid way through the third. It may have been a first for boxing.

In the prelims, a slimmed-down and very under-rated Louis Brown, Okmulgee, KO'd Jimmy Pearish, Joplin (Mo), after 1:53 of the third. Brown, whose pro record is now 12-3, is frequently mentioned as an opponent for "Too Tall" Jones.

Lightweight William Jackson, Eufala, scored a first round TKO over Gary Haught, Tulsa, in the opening bout of the evening. First round knockouts in mis-matched prelims are standard in Tulsa.

Promoter Robert Hudson brought in ring celebrity Archie Moore for this card. Moore received a long, loud standing ovation from the fans. During ceremonies prior to the main-event, Moore presented a special award to Tulsa's own boxing hero, former middleweight great Ellsworth "Spider" Webb. The occasion was Webb's 48th birthday. Birthday cards and telegrams poured in from fighters, trainers, managers, promoters, and a number of elected officials, including a special message from another middleweight great, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. Carter said that he wanted to come in person, but someone locked his door. Moore also presented the "Fighter of the Night" award to "Bubba" Thompson.

BOB RITZ

PENNSYLVANIA

▲ UPPER DARBY — Forum — Bennie Briscoe fans knew it had to happen eventually. The grand old man of Philadelphia boxing would lose to some kid who couldn't have carried his jockstrap a few years ago. It would happen in some dingy, hole-in-the-wall arena, with no more at stake than another payday. Father Time catches up with everyone, even the great ones.

This sad scenario became a reality when 21-year-old Richie Bennett scored a 10-round split decision over Briscoe at the 69th Street Forum, an ancient movie house that has been converted into a fight club.

It wasn't exactly a scene out of *Requiem For A Heavyweight.* Briscoe didn't take a bad beating; in fact, this reporter thought he won the fight. Never-the-less, the handwriting has been on the wall for some time. It's past time for Bad Bennie to call it a career.

It was a fight divided into two halves. For the first five rounds Briscoe, 164, chugged after Bennett, 162, cutting down the ring and scoring repeatedly with jarring left jabs. The third was an especially good one for Briscoe. He lured Bennett into exchanging blows and then opened up with both hands, battering him with over a dozen clean head punches.

From the sixth on, Briscoe, who will turn 37 this month, started to slow down. Bennett, following instructions from his corner, stayed at long range and pumped out a steady flow of left jabs.

Briscoe ducked or blocked many of these jabs, but in several rounds did little punching himself. It was a case of Bennett looking busy, but not really doing any damage.

The ninth round saw Briscoe landing with his left again. Bennett was scoring also, but his punches lacked the head-snapping quality of Bennie's.

Youth was served in the final frame when Bennett did most of the fighting. Briscoe seemed to be merely going through the motions, almost like it was just another workout in the gym.

Referee Ozzie Saddler scored 47-44 in favor of Briscoe (although his card was mistakenly read for Bennett by a somewhat confused ring announcer), while judge Harold Lederman went for Bennett, 47-43. Judge Bill Cannon broke the stalemate with a bizarre 50-43 for Bennett, failing to give Briscoe a single round. Your correspondent agreed with the referee.

Briscoe took his loss philosophically, saying: "Life is like a merry-go-round. Your turn comes by and then, pretty soon, it's somebody else's turn and you just go around the other side because that's where you belong then.

"Bennett is a young boy," continued Briscoe, "and he could do all right now that he's got my name on his record. I thought the fight could have been judged a little better. I thought my jab could have counted more. But what you gonna do? They're just doing for him (Bennett) now what they did for me when I was young and coming up."

Bennett, who goes under the nickname "The Bandit," raised his record to 22-2-2 with 15 kayoes. He is a game club fighter with a sturdy chin and a lot of heart. With careful handling he will do well and the fact that he beat only the ghost of Bennie Briscoe should not detract from his fine effort.

The scheduled eight-round semi-final turned out to be a lesson in rough-house tactics when local Jerome "Silky" Jackson stopped Sammy "King" Floyd, Bay City, Mich., at the end of the last round.

Floyd, 157, nailed Jackson, 160½, in the second with a stiff right to the jaw and then shoved him to the floor for a knockdown. Jackson seemed to lose his composure and resorted to after-the-bell punching and verbal abuse after easily beating the count.

One foul led to another and soon both boxers were punch-

ing, holding, and hitting low.

Jackson scored a knockdown in the fourth, but the fight was fairly close going into the last round. Then the Philadelphian hurt Floyd with two solid body shots and they fell into a clinch. Referee Hank Cisco moved in to separate the two fighters and during the break Jackson swung a mighty right uppercut that dropped Sammy to the canvas.

Floyd was given a three-minute rest to recover from the cheapshot, but declined to continue and was ruled a TKO loser.

Philadelphia heavy Broderick Mason, best known for his loss to Gerry Cooney, scored an easy opening round knockout over Robert McFarland, Vineland N.J. Mason held a 12-pound advantage at 193, and upped his record to 11-4 with six kayoes.

Upper Darby's Ken Carpenter, 126, scored a fifth-round TKO when Trenton's Tim Daniels, 127¼, was not permitted to carry on after the end of the fourth. It had been a rousing contest, with Daniels getting off to a fast start against the aggressive Carpenter. Daniels' lefty stance had Ken confused for a few rounds, but he finally reached Daniels in the fourth and really worked him over, cutting his right eye and forcing the between rounds stoppage.

South Philly's Bernard Peterson, 145, kayoed New Yorker Manny Simms, 146, with a right 2:02 into the third round of a scheduled six. Peterson has won all three of his pro bouts inside the distance.

Chubby Leo Martinez, 161¼, Frankford, decisioned oldy Luis Carrasquillo, 158, Phila., over four often humorous rounds. What the pair lacked in skill they made up for in enthusiasm.

Earnest Jackson, 135, closed the card with a four-round points win over gutsy Jose Green, 139, Warminster. Jackson, making his pro debut, is the younger brother of Jerome Jackson.

The Rus Peltz promotion played before a SRO crowd and was televised over the ESPN cable network.

Paid attendance — 1,720.

NIGEL COLLINS

TEXAS

▲ BEAUMONT — Civic Center — 46 days of waiting and wondering came to an end for power punching middleweight prospect Wilford Scypion as he stepped into the ring for the first time since the tragic death of Willie Classen following Wilford's kayo victory in New York City's Felt Forum. His foe on this occasion was Norris McKinney, a lanky southpaw from Dallas who had decisioned Scypion twice when they were amateurs. Following a lackluster first round, any thoughts that Wilford would hold back were dispelled as he pounded the Dallas lad from post to pillar with his usual non-stop style. Midway through the third stanza, he cornered the 159-pound Dallasite and bombarded him from all angles. A short overhand right finished McKinney off and referee Mark Tessman tolled 10 at the 2:47 mark.

It was learned after the fight that McKinney had been taken to the hospital to be examined for possible internal injuries. Thankfully, commission Dr. Maxie Sprott's fears of a damaged spleen were wrong and McKinney was able to return home with his manager, Winky Grooms, the next day.

The victory raised Scypion's record to 14-0 (all kayoes), while McKinney fell to 7-3.

Where does Wilford go from here? Managers Mike Jones and Howard Parham hope to keep him busy with a bout in Jamaica and a semi-final match on the Howard Davis-Vilomar Fernandez card in Atlantic City. Hopefully, he will return to his home area after that against a fighter who will offer him more of a test than he received here this evening.

This show was to have featured the pro debut of ex-pro football standout Ernie Holmes as well; but the only time the ex-Pittsburgh Steeler tackle got into the ring was to be introduced prior to the main event. The reason given by the promoters for the cancellation was that Holmes' eye exam report hadn't been approved by commission asst. director Henry Villagomez in time. However, your reporter was told, prior to the night's card, that Ernie's scheduled opponent had been knocked out in Galena Park the night before; and was thus unable to meet his commitment. Several attempts at finding a suitable replacement turned up only a couple of inexperienced light heavies, which Villagomez (thank goodness!) refused to allow to be matched with the 297-lb. Holmes. Holmes hails from Burkeville, about 60 miles north of Beaumont, so promoter Gene Yates plans to feature his debut on his next card here.

John Morgan, 135½, Dallas, kayoed local favorite James "Bubba" Busceme, 135, Beaumont, in 1:13 of the eighth round in a big upset. A sprained ankle, put into a cast the next morning, and a noticeable lack of conditioning hampered Busceme in staying away from Morgan's hard overhand rights.

Bruce Scott, Port Arthur, won a split decision over Vernon Johnston, Beaumont, in an eight-round heavyweight "grudge match." This was a last minute addition to the card owing to the Holmes cancellation.

George Zuniga, 129½, Houston, won a unanimous decision over comebacking Gaby Cantera, 133, San Antonio, six.

Juan Venegas, 133, Houston, iced debuting Rudy Gueverra, 139, San Antonio, at 2:03 of the fifth round in a scheduled six-round curtain raiser.

Due to the illnesses of officials Chris Jordan and Paul Prejean, referee Mark Tessman and judges Bob Martin and Manuel Hernandez worked all five bouts. The timekeeper was Fred McWilliams, former commission inspector in Beaumont.

Promoter: Cherokee Promotions (Gene Yates).

Paid attendance—1,842. Total attendance—1,980.

C.A.JACKSON

CANADA

MANITOBA

▲ WINNIPEG — Convention Center — In a five bout professional card held before 2,400 fans, Johnny Summerhays, Brantford, and Pedro Acosta, Colombia, engaged in a fiercely fought 10-round close in battle with the decision going to the Brantford fighter.

Summerhays took the bout on very short notice when he filled in for Rick Folstad, Minneapolis, who was unable to appear. Throughout the entire bout, each fighter landed hard, damaging punches which were visable only to those close to ringside. Summerhays, by staying in close, forced Acosta to fight a defensive fight in which he had no room to stand off and connect with any big punches. There were no knockdowns in the bout, and a strong final two rounds turned the decision in favor of Summerhays by scores of 49-49, 50-47, and 49-48. The win for Summerhays was a good one and now puts his record at 36-14-3.

In other bouts, Bernie Strauss kayoed Dave Reynolds in three rounds. Terry Jesmer lost a unanimous six-round decision to Harland Holden, Wayne Caplette kayoed Larry Ward in the fifth round. In a mismatch, Al Ford, Edmonton, 135, knocked out Danny Stokes, Toronto, 141, in three rounds. For his own protection, the licence of Stokes should be lifted without delay.

FRANK ALLNUTT

NOVA SCOTIA

▲ HALIFAX — Metro Centre — It was in August that promoter Don Kerr rang me from Halifax, Nova Scotia. Don wanted the Berlin based Nigerian heavyweight, Ngozika Ekwelum, to fight the Canadian champion, Trevor Berbick. The winner would be the official challenger for John L. Gardner's Commonwealth heavyweight title. Ekwelum took a fight in Lagos, Nigeria, in the meantime, beating Jo Kalala to win the African heavyweight crown, but in so doing injured his right shoulder. The bout with Berbick, scheduled for September, naturally had to be called off. Promoter Kerr came up with another date, December 4th, but the Canadian authorities turned down the bout, not having any medical clearance from Ekwelum certifying him fit to fight again. A third date, Dec. 11th, finally saw Ekwelum climb in the same ring with the not-so-popular local matador, Trevor Berbick, at the Metro Centre. A crowd of less than 1500 were lost in this huge 10,000-seater venue, which had been full to capacity a week or so earlier for a program of boxing.

Ekwelum had been in Halifax four days before I arrived on the evening of the contest. I was engaged in a French-German amateur show that weekend in Berlin and could not accompany Ekwelum. Although I am neither his manager nor cornerman, I would have liked to have travelled with the Nigerian boxer. Seeing him at the hotel Chateau Halifax a couple of hours before the fight, it was obvious to me that he was not in the same physical condition he was in when I saw him on the plane at Tegal airport in Berlin a few days earlier. He was full of cold and had been taking pills daily to keep down a fever.

His performance was a stinker, with him retiring at the end of round four and the promoter and Ekwelum came under heavy fire from the TV commentator and newspaper scribes. A boxer traveling all the way from Berlin to Canada with no cornerman or manager, they said, saw the promoter get what he deserved — a flop and a huge deficit.

Knowing Ekwelum, a nice guy studying in Berlin and boxing to pay his university fees, he does not turn in a stinker like this every day of the week. He can't afford to or he would be packing his cases for home. Take a look at his record and the facts will speak real loud in favor of the boxer.

The only criticism I offer is that the fight should have been shelved until 1980. The public were sour and had no further interest in a bout that had been postponed a couple of times. Berbick, who I met for the first time, is not a popular champion and this did not improve the situation. The heavyweight situation in Canada is a huge joke, said one TV commentator. All well and good, but it's not too rosy in any other country with the exception of America. In Great Britain, you have John L. Gardner, the Commonwealth champion whose world title hopes were left in ruins when he was beaten by American Jimmy Young recently. Lorenzo Zanon of Italy is the European champion, held to a draw by fellow countryman Alfio Righetti, and is now scheduled to face Larry Holmes. Lucien Rodriguez is the French champion, but lacks a real punch. Alfredo Evangelista of Spain, beaten by Zanon, is no longer a force to be reckoned with. There is George Butzbach in Germany, who was beaten in seven rounds by South African Kallie Knoetze, and in Belgium we have Al Syben. In France, Sylvain Watbled is still a real threat to Lorenzo Zanon's European title. But with all these guys around, their presence does not make Trevor Berbick or Canadian boxing a laughing stock. In my opinion, for the record, Al Syben, who is undefeated, is the best man in Europe.

There's little to be said about the actual fight in Halifax between Berbick and Ekwelum. The Nigerian caught Berbick with good left jabs but failed to land his right on the target to finish the combination. Berbick, at 214 pounds and 6'2" was slightly heavier and taller than his opponent. He was the aggressor and his punches puffed up Ekwelum's left eye and cut his right cheek, providing the African champion with facial injuries for the first time in his career.

Berbick, 27, had 11 amateur bouts, winning seven and as a professional has had 13 wins, a kayo loss to Bernardo Mercado, and drew with Leroy Caldwell.

Ekwelum is, to some degree, a hungry fighter and to the critics in Canada, I answer, when this fight was first made, I saw Ekwelum as the winner. He disappointed; he let down me and the promoter. A return between these two boxers would see a different Ekwelum, but you cannot expect the Canadians to go all through this again. Ekwelum had his chance and it will not come his way again.

Promoter Kerr's show was a flop. He would be the first to admit it. Most of the bouts ended inside the distance which did nothing to compensate the few paying customers present. This is a risk promoters take when they invest money in a show and in such circumstances, quite rightly, they must accept criticism from the press and TV. But let's not forget that they are alone in settling the deficit. Without such men as Kerr, Trevor Berbick would not be knocking on the door of Commonwealth heavyweight champion John L. Gardner.

When one has to look back in the record books to 1931 to find the name of Canada's last Commonwealth champion, Larry Gains, sports writers and commentators should be a little kinder towards the game. My impression — true, only a three day stay — was that the newspaper boys and newscasters just don't like boxing. Why? Perhaps my mail in the coming months will provide the answer.

JACK A TREE

▲ HALIFAX — Metro Centre — Ralph Hollett, Halifax, won a stunning 12-round unanimous decision over Fernand Marcotte, Quebec City, to claim the Canadian middleweight crown.

Hollett, with a record of 5-5 as a pro (he never fought as an amateur), fought like a veteran, using a very effective left jab mixed with an occasional left hook and a good straight right which Marcotte could do little with. Much of the credit for the win must go to Hollett's trainer, Tom McCluskey, who took over Hollett's training last year and has changed him from a clumsy prelim fighter to a well honed fighting machine. This, of course, comes as no surprise to fight fans in this area, including this correspondent, who feels McCluskey is probably one of the best handlers in the business.

Both fighters weighed in at 159. Hollett also holds the Canadian middleweight kick-boxing crown.

Alan Clarke, 145, Halifax, took a unanimous decision over Lawrence Hafey, 146, Stellarton, N.S., in the 10-round semi-final. It was Clarke's 19th straight win and his toughest to date. It was a brutal battle from start to finish, with little boxing, and both boys taking turns trying to take one another out.

Danny Long, 152, Boston, Mass., won a split decision over Lancelot Innis, Ghana, now fighting out of Montreal under the guidance of Roger Larivee. It was a dull fight, due to the fact that Innis was content to hold his opponent's left and not allow him to get inside and do what he knew best — in-fighting. The referee didn't help matters by continually breaking the fighters rather than letting them fight their way out of the clinches. I believe this worked to the disadvantage of Long, but, when the smoke cleared and the fans, along with this writer, considered Innis to have won, the judges thought otherwise, declaring Long the winner. Long, last June, outpointed Hollett, the new champion.

Paul Talbot, 166, Halifax, won unanimous decision over Pierre Savard, 162, Quebec City, four. This was Talbot's first pro fight.

The crowd, in the vicinity of 3,500, contributed to a gate of approximately $40,000. The card was promoted by Jim Maloney.

GERRY SPEARS

QUEBEC

▲ MONTREAL — Forum — The final Canadian championship fight of 1979 took place before a small crowd of 2,150 fans. Canadian light heavyweight champion Gary Summerhays, Brantford, defending his title for the second time in three months, kayoed Jean Claude Leclair, Montreal, in nine rounds.

Both fighters weighed in at 173, and, from the initial bell, it was the seasoned Summerhays who controlled the bout. Leclair was constantly under pressure and was unable to penetrate the strong defense of his opponent, who succeeded in picking off and blocking many of the punches thrown at him. It was a close fight for the first five rounds. In round eight, Summerhays opened up and scored with hard punches to the head and body. Leclair was dropped for an eight-count and, on resumption, Summerhays trapped him on the ropes and punished him with a series of combination punches which prompted the referee to halt the bout and administer a standing eight-count to Leclair just prior to the round's end. After the bell to start round nine, Leclair was still sitting on his stool and, after a lapse of 18 seconds, referee Guy Jutras indicated that Leclair was unable to continue and awarded the fight to Summerhays on a ninth round knockout. The win now leaves Summerhays with a 39-16-3 record. The loss for the 24-year-old Leclair may have ended his career at 38-6-1, as that was his indication in the dressing room after the fight.

On the undercard, Jimmy Gradson, Montreal, scored a TKO over Jim Henry in the seventh round of a middleweight bout. Ralph Racine, Niagara Falls, won a decision over Al Ford, Edmonton, at the lightweight limit. Willy Featherstone, Toronto, kayoed Bobby Lalonde at 1:07 of the initial round. Bernardo Prado scored a three round TKO over Danny Johnson. In the opening four-round bout, Ghyslain Desoy was a decision winner over Brian Anderson.

FRANK ALLNUTT

MEXICO

BAJA CALIFORNIA

▲ TIJUANA—Ernesto Garfias, 135, kayoed Adrian "Cachorro" Estrella, also 135, in the third round. Benny Silva, 117, knocked out Rodolfo Chavez, 118, in the third. Enrique Castro, 115, TKO'd Jesus Delgado, 116, in the second.

CHIAPAS

▲ TONALA—Alejandro Flores, 124, halted Aztequita de los Santos, 135, in three.

DISTRICTO FEDERAL

▲ MEXICO CITY—Armando "Palitos" Perez, 112, TKO'd Carlos "Chompirin" Cantu, 112, in seven. Reyes Gonzalez, 135, TKO'd Memo Miranda, 134, in seven. Angel Lira, 116, demolished Javier Morales, 115, in two. Armando Terron, 117, outscored Jose Garibo, 118, six. Feliciano Soto, 115, outpointed Nicolas Mora, 116, four.

▲ MEXICO CITY—Candido Tellez, 108, TKO'd Ricardo Lira, 107, in the first round. Jesus Ramirez, 135, TKO'd Manuel Ferrer, 132, in the fourth. Artemio Ramirez, 124, destroyed Agustin "Kimba" Palacios, 119, in one. Guillermo Vallejo, 118, TKO'd Ciro Cayetano, 117, in eight. Filiberto "Macanas" Gonzalez, 106, TKO'd Antonio Lopez, 105, in three.

▲ MEXICO CITY—Trinidad Madrid, 144, TKO'd Chucho Almazon, 145, in nine. Pablo Marquez, 125, TKO'd Chano Molina, also 125, in seven.

▲ MEXICO CITY—Gustavo Salgado, 124, outpointed Brigido Martinez, 126, 10. Jorge Zarate, 124, outscored Cenobio Nicolas, 126, 10. Sergio Sanchez, 145, iced Francisco Torres, 146, in the first round. Hipolito Hernandez, 113, TKO'd Pedro Rivera, 112, in two. Efrain Zepeda, 117, outscored Pablo Ibarra, also 117, four.

▲ MEXICO CITY—Raul Aguirre, 144, TKO'd Jose Duarte,

147, in two. Claro Guzman, 146, TKO'd Eleuterio Davila, also 146, in five. Rodolfo Ortega, 111, outpointed Heriberto Saavedra, also 111, eight. Angel Ortega, 111, kayoed Guillermo Chapa, 110, in two. Raul Morales, 124, outscored Hector Cortes, also 124, four.

▲ **MEXICO CITY**—Juan "Monito" Diaz, 111, decisioned Jorge de Jesus, also 111, 10. Isidro Ocampo "Chilango" Pacheco, 126, outpointed Alejandro Vega, also 126, 10. Angel Lira, 107, TKO'd Jose Garivo, 109, in five. Luis Soto, 109, outpointed Victor Urieta, 107, six. Gustavo Chavez, 125, TKO'd Hilario Cortes, also 125, in one.

DURANGO

▲ **GOMEZ PALACIO**—Antonio Avelar, 113, suffered a knockdown in the first round, but came back to kayo Alfredo "Cachorro" Hernandez, 112, in the second. Mario Castro, 125, TKO'd Frankie Granados, also 125, in seven. Rocky Mijares, 111, TKO'd Arturo Mojica, also 111, in four. Felipe Romero, 112, outpointed Hector Escalera, also 112, 10.

GUERRERO

▲ **ACAPULCO**—Erubey "Chango" Carmona, 159, the former WBC lightweight king, kayoed Francisco Candela, 158, in two. Emilio "Cacha" Zamora, 126, and Balam Torres, 125, drew, 10. Carlos Hernandez, 123, kayoed Fernando Aviles, 123, in two.

▲ **ACAPULCO**—Raul "Zurdo" Molina, 135, decisioned Antonio Nava, 132, 10. Rafael Guerra, 109, TKO'd Victor Hugo Aguirre, 110, in 10.

▲ **ACAPULCO**—Carmelo "Chino" Montes, 112, outpointed Carlos Ibarra, 111, 10. Javier Lucas, 119, outscored Huberto Colin, 120, 10. "Huracan" Juarez, 114, outpointed Abel Vargas, 116, eight. Alberto Morales, 121, kayoed Mario Rosario. Ezequias Romero, 111, kayoed Mario Lomano, also 111, in two.

▲ **ACAPULCO**—Joel Gatica, 124, stopped Felipe Farias, also 124, in six. Enedino "Alacran" Aguilar, 125, and Esteban Perez, also 125, drew, 10. Saul Meyran, 134, TKO'd Bartolo Villanueva, 133, in one.

▲ **ACAPULCO**—Fabian Palma, 118, kayoed Jorge Castillo, 123, in five. Carlos Hernandez, 125, knocked out Lucio Torres, 127, in two.

▲ **TAXCO**—Miguel Angel Alvarez, 120, outscored Jorge Morales, 119, 10. Luis Castillo, 106, knocked out Enrique Cortes, 119, in the first round.

JALISCO

▲ **GUADALAJARA**—Rocky Alonso, 118, outscored Kiko Bejinez, also 118, 12, to win the Jalisco state bantamweight title. Miguel Sanchez, 119, TKO'd Sebastian Mancilla, also 119, in eight. Javier Morales, 119, outscored Jose Luis Perez, 120, 10.

▲ **GUADALAJARA**—Salvador Sanchez, 125, TKO'd Rafael Gandarilla, 123, in five. Rodolfo "Dorado" Martinez, 112, TKO'd Miguel "Raton" Gonzalez, 111, in eight. Hector Cortes, 117, and Alfonso "Buho" Rodriguez, 118, drew, 10. Carlos Gomez, 118, outpointed Carlos "Calaca" Segura, also 118, eight. Rodrigo Flores, 119, kayoed Humberto Gudino, 124, in four.

NUEVO LEON

▲ **MONTERREY**—Juan Torres, 125, outscored Leonardo Ramirez, 124, 10.

QUINTANO ROO

▲ **CHETUMAL**—Adolfo Sanjeado, 146, kayoed Raymundo Camayaua, 147, San Salvador, in three. Jorge Dario de Haza, 134, Dominican Republic, knocked out Abraham Nunez, 132, in

LATIN AMERICAN RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
1. Bernardo Mercado (Colombia)
2. Domingo D'Elia (Argentina)
3. Osvaldo Ocasio (P.R.)
4. Miguel A. Paez (Arg.)
5. Antonio Musaldino (Arg.)
6. Pablo Castellino (Arg.)
7. Luis Pires (Brazil)
8. Chebo Hernandez (Mexico)
9. Ismael Ruiz (Mexico)
10. Gilberto Acuna (Costa Rica)

JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHTS
1. Carlos DeLeon (P.R.)
2. Luis Lozano (Panama)
3. Ruben Zamaro (Argentina)
4. Wendall Joseph (Trinidad)
5. Waldemar Paulino (Brazil)
6. Ruben Gonzalez (Argentina)
7. Elias Equihua (Mexico)
8. Ruben Aguilar (Argentina)
9. Faustino Quinales (Venezuela)
10. Juan Espinola (Chile)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
1. Alvaro (Yaqui) Lopez (Mexico)
2. Juan D. Suarez (Argentina)
3. Abel C. Bailone (Argentina)
4. Ernie Barr (Bahamas)
5. Ramon Cerrezuela (Argentina)
6. Mario Rosa (P.R.)
7. Leo Roger (D.R.)
8. Maceton Cabrera (Mexico)
9. Julio Cruz (Mexico)
10. Rumildo Bolivar (Peru)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
1. Hugo Corro (Argentina)
2. Fulgencio Obel (Venezuela)
3. Ricardo Arce (Argentina)
4. Marcos Geraldo (Mexico)
5. Ruben Pardo (Argentina)
6. Jacinto Fernandez (Argentina)
7. Marcelo Quinones (Peru)
8. Norberto Cabrera (Argentina)
9. Jose Burlon (Argentina)
10. Joaquin Macias (Mexico)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
1. Emiliano Villa (Colombia)
2. Sandy Torres (P.R.)
3. Kenny Bristol (Guyana)
4. Walter Gomez (Argentina)
5. Carlos Herrera (Argentina)
6. Joao Henrique (Brazil)
7. Jesus "Pecho" Castro (D.R.)
8. Fighting Jim (Curaco)
9. Nicanor Camacho (Colombia)
10. Jose Baquedano (Mexico)

WELTERWEIGHTS
1. Wilfred Benitez (Puerto Rico)
2. Eddie Marcelle (Trinidad)
3. Tito Yanni (Argentina)
4. Daniel Gonzalez (Argentina)
5. Segundo Murillo (Ecuador)
6. Ricardo Magallanes (Arg.)
7. Wellington Wheatley (Ecuador)
8. Guerrero Chavez (Venezuela)
9. Fernando "Rocco" Castro (Peru)
10. Adan Chavarria (Mexico)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
1. Miguel Montilla (D.R.)
2. Esteban DeJesus (P.R.)
3. Zenon Silgado (Colombia)
4. Juan J. Gimenez (Argentina)
5. Lennox Blackmoore (Guyana)
6. Hugo Luero (Argentina)
7. Tommy Ortiz (Panama)
8. Adriano (Nani) Marrero (D.R.)
9. Teodoro Osuna (Dominican Rep.)
10. Francisco Moreno (Venezuela)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
1. Edwin Viruet (P.R.)
2. Vilomar Fernandez (D.R.)
3. Claude Noel (Trinidad)
4. Leonidas Asprillas (Colombia)
5. Julio (Diablito) Valdez (D.R.)
6. Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)
7. Vicente Mijares (Mexico)
8. Betillo Gutierrez (Mexico)
9. Alfredo Pitalua (Colombia)
10. Clemente Rojas (Colombia)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
1. Rafael (Bazooka) Limon (Mexico)
2. Victor Echegaray (Arg.)
3. Ruben Riani (Arg.)
4. Reynaldo Hidalgo (Panama)
5. Oscar Arnal (Ven.)
6. Leonel Hernandez (Ven.)
7. Cocoa Sanchez (D.R.)
8. Hector Carrasquilla (Panama)
9. Ildelfonso Bethelmy (Venezuela)
10. Juan Escobar (Mexico)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
1. Juan Malvarez (Arg.)
2. Salvador Sanchez (Mexico)
3. Patrick Ford (Guyana)
4. Rodolfo "Babe" Francis (Panama)
5. Raul "Huracan" Silva (Costa Rica)
6. Lobo Morales (Mexico)
7. Hipolito Nunez (Arg.)
8. Enrique Solis (P.R.)
9. Rumualdo Garces (Colombia)
10. Armando Perez (Colombia)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
1. Sergio Palma (Arg.)
2. Nestor Jimenez (Col.)
3. Ruben Valdez (Colombia)
4. Carlos Mendoza (Panama)
5. Juan Antonio Lopez (Mexico)
6. Leo Cruz (Dominican Republic)
7. Jacinto Fuentes (Panama)
8. Jose Cervantes (Colombia)
9. Andres Hernandez (P.R.)
10. Miguel Bejarano (Nicaragua)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
1. Julian Solis (P.R.)
2. Jose F. Uziga (Arg.)
3. Ricardo Bennett (Panama)
4. Norberto Cabrera (Mexico)
5. Julio C. Saba (Arg.)
6. Rafael Orono (Venezuela)
7. Adelaido Galindo (Mexico)
8. Danilo Batista (Brazil)
9. Jose Loor (Ecuador)
10. Juan Alvarez (Mexico)

FLYWEIGHTS
1. Betulio Gonzalez (Venezuela)
2. Guty Espadas (Mexico)
3. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
4. Ramon Soria (Arg.)
5. Jose Gallegos (Mexico)
6. Freddy Catillo (Mexico)
7. Alfonso Lopez (Panama)
8. Jaime Miranda (Chile)
9. Ramon Rodriguez (Argentina)
10. Orlando Maldonado (Puerto Rico)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
1. Martin Vargas (Chile)
2. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
3. German Torres (Mexico)
4. Rodolfo Rodriguez (Arg.)
5. Amado Ursua (Mexico)
6. Rafael Pedroza (Panama)
7. Hector Rey Melendez (D.R.)
8. Jovito Rengifo (Venezuela)
9. Lupe Madera (Mexico)
10. Reyes Arnal (Venezuela)

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two. Jose Guardian, 107, outpointed Babe Leoncito, 111, six. Francisco Flores, 108, outscored Miguel Barrera, 107, four. Fermin Quintero, 106, outscored Luis Abam, also 106, four.

▲ **CHETUMAL**—Jose Baquedano, 158, TKO'd Carlos Mark, 165, Trinidad and Tobago, in two.

SONORA

▲ **HERMOSILLO**—Norberto Cabrera, 118, TKO'd Carlos Alcibar, also 118, Puerto Rico, in six. Manuel "Topo Gigio" Vasquez, 118, TKO'd Mauricio Beltran, 119, in four. Arturo Tabaqui, 109, kayoed "Duende" Rodriguez, 108, in five.

▲ **HERMOSILLO**—Manuel "Topo Gigio" Vasquez, 118, scored a tremendous upset when he TKO'd WBC bantamweight champion Lupe Pintor, 119, in the sixth round of a non-title bout. Pintor was floored in the first round. German Torres, 110, halted Arturo Tabaqui, also 110, in three. Adrian "Cachorro" Estrella, 134, TKO'd Jose Angel Jimenez, 135, in five.

VERACRUZ

▲ **POZA RICA**—Sixto Castillo, 125, halted Babe San Martin, 124, in five. Jorge de Jesus, 110, outpointed Carlos Yescas, 111, 10.

YUCATAN

▲ **MERIDA**—Paulino Canche, 119, TKO'd Jose "Shibata" Ruiz, also 119, in seven Manuel Hong, 117, iced Eduardo Medina, 118, in one. Jorge Pech, 113, and Roberto Llanes, 114, drew, 10. Jose Esteban Quijano, 109, and Ranulfo Cano, 110, drew, 10.

▲ **MERIDA**—Adolfo Sanjeado, 146, flattened Adolfo "Chango" Carrillo, 145, in six. Diego Franco, 110, TKO'd Pastor Brito, also 110, in three. William Solis, 125, TKO'd Memo Gamboa, 126, in five. Harvey Leon, 112, outpointed Eder Yam, 110, six. Mario Arredondo, 113, and Juanito Cano, 112, drew, four.

EDUARDO AMER G.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

▲ **PORT-OF-SPAIN — Claude Noel, 136¼, lightweight champion of Trinidad and Tobago, kayoed Francisco Becarra, 136, Panama, in 1:31 of the fifth round.**

Eddie Marcelle, 147, welterweight champion of Trinidad and Tobago, TKO'd Mario Valoyes, 147, Panama, at 0:57 of the fourth.

Michael Parsons, 140, Trinidad and Tobago, outscored Felix Sune, 142½, Panama, 10.

Patrick Forde, 130, Central American and Caribbean (FECARBOX) featherweight champion, Guyana, TKO'd Marcus Britton, 128, Panama, in four.

GEORGE C. BECKLES

SOUTH AMERICA

GUYANA

▲ **GEORGETOWN — National Sports Hall — Conrad Wilson, 168, Linden, kayoed light heavyweight champion Al Thomas, 170, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10-round bout, ending a six-year undefeated reign.**

Wilson came out as though *he* was the champion, with stiff left jabs and left digs to the body and head — superb boxing skills that had Thomas in trouble from the very first minute of the fight. The champion needed all his know how and experience to stay in with Wilson past three rounds.

Wilson, the number two contender, exploded with a vicious right to the head that sent Thomas to the canvas. The champion got up at six, and, after taking the mandatory eight-count, was saved by the bell. The sixth and final round began with the champion sticking and moving, with Wilson pursuing his man the way he had since the very first minute of the bout. He exploded once again, with a left hook to the body and a vicious right to the head that sent the champion to the canvas, this time for keeps.

Thomas will have to put his title on the line against Wilson — or hang 'em up.

Roy Davidson, Georgetown, made an impressive pro debut, kayoing Collin Douglas, Linden, in the second. Davidson, 135, was just too much for Douglas, 132, who was overmatched.

The best bout of the night saw Clifford Jones, 151, Linden, win a split six-round decision over Kid Carrington, 146, a late substitute. Carrington, a veteran, pressed the young and speedy Jones, who used a classy left jab and clean right to eke out a close verdict. Most of the fans on hand, however, felt Carrington had done enough to earn the decision.

Mark Persaud, 109, Georgetown, halted Ramesh Best, 103, in the fifth round of a scheduled six-rounder. Best was in command for the first three rounds. He had Persaud out on his feet, but, instead of calling a halt, referee Adams merely gave Persaud a standing eight-count. Persaud rallied to win by TKO when Best, complaining of exhaustion, failed to answer the bell for round five.

Walter Smith, 128, Linden, knocked out Rudolph Gittens, 129, in the third round of a scheduled four.

Samuel Brutus, 117, Linden, kayoed Andre Williams, 115, in the last round of a scheduled four-rounder. It should have been stopped in the third, but referee Wolfe Boodhoo allowed Williams one round of unnecessary punishment. When the kayo finally did come, Williams was laid out for 20 minutes.

The mismatches must stop and the quality of refereeing must be raised if Guyana has any intentions of going towards "world championship standards."

LLOYD W. BLACKMOORE

EUROPE

French welterweight champion Louis Arcaries held on to his crown, outscoring Richard Rodriguez over 12 rounds at Nice. Acaries was just inside the welter limit and his physical condition must be questioned. Rodriguez gave as good as he received and was a worthy challenger. At Saint Malo, the French junior middleweight champion, Georges Warusfel, retained his crown, drawing over 12 rounds with Claude Martin. At Lille, Georges Cotin won the French lightweight title, outpointing Didier Kowalski over 12 rounds. Cotin had to face heavy punching from Kowalski, who started to tire in round five. Cotin then started to box and came out on top. At the Cirque d'Hiver, Sylvain Watbled of France outscored Briton Bunny Johnson in a return bout over 10 rounds. In their first encounter, Bunny kayoed Watbled in the sixth. The Frenchman seemed more relaxed in this return and got down to some serious boxing from the sixth round onwards. In the ninth, he decked Johnson for a count of eight and was in full command. Johnson was always dangerous, making Watbled work for his points. He was also superior at close quarters, with Watbled dominating at long range. French junior lightweight champion Charles Jurietti held on to his title, outpointing Maurice Apeang over 12 rounds. This was their third meeting.

In Italy, European heavyweight champion Lorenzo Zanon, warming up for his WBC title fight with Larry Holmes, beat American Clamann Sand Parker, who retired in round seven.

At the close of 1979, only Roberto Castanon (feather) and Juan Francisco Rodriguez (bantam), both from Spain, still wear the crowns they wore in 1978. 22 boxers shared the eleven European titles during the year and, with two championship contests during December, it looks as if the total will be 27, which is less than in 1978 and four fewer than the record for any one year, 31 in 1976 and 1977.

At Valladolid, Spain, Carlos Hernandez won back his European junior lightweight title, outpointing fellow Spaniard Rodolfo Sanchez over 12 rounds. Hernandez reigned at the start of 1979 but, after a successful defense against Italian Natale Vezzoli, he lost to Sanchez. Rodolfo Sanchez's only other defense was against Frenchman Charles Jurietti, and he came close to losing his crown in that one. The junior lightweight division did not get started until 1971, and it has now had 28 bouts, producing seven champions. At Leon, Spain, European featherweight champion Roberto Castanon, Spain, retained his crown, knocking out Italian Eleno Fereira, KO3.

Germany's professional boxer of the year (1979) was Frank Wissenbach. Theo Wittenbrink, the BDB president, was 60 in January. Wittenbrink was also a successful promoter and can claim a record 11 promotions in one year. German welterweight champion Jurgen Voss has vacated his BDB title. Germany had 14 promotions during 1979, with two being topped by Muhammad Ali, who gave exhibitions with Germans George Butzbach and ex-European champion Karl Mildenberger, the German who met Ali for the world title in Frankfort in 1966, losing in 12 rounds. Less than 20,000 patronized the 14 meetings, compared with 24,000 that saw the 20 promotions in 1978. 14 is the lowest number of promotions in any one year in the history of German boxing. If the sport in Germany is to survive, then I suggest the authorities adopt the French system, with amateurs and professionals fighting on the same bill. On many occasions in France, a program of boxing has been saved by a couple of good amateur bouts.

There are three dozen or so active fighters in Germany, compared to 123 in 1955. Surprisingly enough, there are at least five talented boxers who could be considered for a shot at the European crown—heavyweight George Butzbach, middles Frank Wissenbach and George Steinherr, light heavyweight Uwe Meinecke, and lightweight Dieter Schantz.

Several new champions will be crowned in 1980, and, for new faces, I look to heavyweight John L. Gardner, light heavyweight Hocine Tafer, middleweight Kevin Finnegan, welterweight Dave Green, lightweight Ken Buchanan, junior light Charles Jurietti, and bantamweight Johnny Owen. Champions who I feel will survive the year are junior middleweight Marijan Benes (Y), junior welter Jo Kimpuani (F), featherweight Roberto Castanon, and Charlie Magri (GB). Yes, Great Britain should have a very successful year.

Lorenzo Zanon is scheduled to meet Larry Holmes. Lose as he will, Zanon must then make a defense against Briton John L. Gardner. The fighter who should not be forgotten in this division is Alfio Righetti, who held his fellow Italian, Zanon, to a draw. Rudi Koopmans' official challenger for his light heavyweight title is Frenchman Hocine Tafer, with whom he drew last time out. In the meantime, Koopmans makes a voluntary defense against Italian Ennio Cometti.

At the time of writing, Kevin Finnegan faces Gratien Tonna in Paris for Alan Minter's vacated title. Tonna scored over the Briton four years ago in Monte Carlo, but this time it should be a different story. Finnegan will become the new middleweight champion, providing he does not get cut to cause a stoppage. Dave Green was caught cold in the third and kayoed

when he fought the aging Dane, Jorgen Hansen (36), but he could recover his welter crown should he meet Hansen again in 1980. Jo Kimpuani, Zaire, based in France, has little opposition, and he can look to the world junior welter crown as his next prize. At lightweight, it looks as if champion Charlie Nash will vacate his crown to face world champion Jim Watt (GB). Last time out, Ken Buchanan came very close to beating Nash and many saw him the winner. If Nash vacates, Buchanan must be considered, and his opponent should be Francisco Leon of Spain. If Nash faces Watt, it will be the first all-British world title fight since September 30, 1949, when Rinty Monaghan drew with Terry Allen for the flyweight crown.

Junior lightweight Charles Jurietti came very close to dethroning Rodolfo Sanchez; in fact, many saw him the winner. Carlos Hernandez, who beat Sanchez, should now defend against Jurietti. Roberto Castanon, featherweight champion since 1977, need not lose any sleep, for his crown is safe for another year. Bantamweight champion Juan Rodriguez met Briton Johnny Owen, and the record books will tell you that he won on points. Owen did, in fact, win this one in Almeira, Spain, but he did not get the verdict. Rodriguez's first date in 1980 is a return with Owen—in Wales.

Flyweight Charlie Magri may well forget his European crown and go all out for the world title. Magri hung up his gloves after his shock defeat at the Montreal Olympic games and it was some time before he was persuaded to join the professionals. I doubt very much if he regrets this move.

At the EBU meeting held at Geneva, Britain proposed that European championship bouts should be over 15 rounds, not 12. Until Angelo Jaccopucci, Italy, lost his life (he was kayoed in 12 rounds by Briton Alan Minter), all European title fights were over 15 rounds. Jaccopucci's death saw the EBU reduce the distance to 12 frames. The BBB of C was outvoted, and the distance for European title fights will still be 12 rounds, although world, British and Commonwealth championship contests are all scheduled for 15.

At Turin, Italy, European heavyweight champion Lorenzo Zanon retained his title, outscoring Spaniard Felipe Rodriguez, 12. Zanon, now 28, has a record of 24 wins, four losses and two draws in 30 starts.

EUROPEAN RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Lorenzo Zanon (I)
1. Alfio Righetti (I)
2. John L. Gardner (GB)
3. Al Syben (B)
4. Alfredo Evangelista (S)
5. Felipe Rodriguez (S)
6. Lucien Rodriguez (F)
7. Tommy Kiely (GB)
8. Les Stevens (GB)
9. Sylvain Watbled (F)
10. George Butzbach (G)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Rudi Koopmans (H)
1. Mate Parlov (Y)
2. John Conteh (GB)
3. Hocine Tafer (F)
4. David Conteh (GB)
5. Bunny Johnson (GB)
6. Aldo Traversaro (I)
7. Avenamar Peralta (S)
8. Ennio Cometti (I)
9. Robert Amory (F)
10. Dennis Andries (GB)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship: Vacant
1. Alan Minter (GB)
2. Gratien Tonna (F)
3. Kevin Finnegan (GB)
4. Tony Sibson (GB)
5. Frankie Lucas (GB)
6. Matteo Salvemini (I)
7. Frank Wissenbach (G)
8. George Steinherr (G)
9. Alvaro Scarpelli (I)
10. Roy Gumbs (GB)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Marijan Benes (Y)
1. Maurice Hope (GB)
2. Adoni Amana (S)
3. Pat Thomas (GB)
4. Jimmy Batten (GB)
5. Luigi Minchillo (I)
6. Jose Hernandez (S)
7. Claude Martin (F)
8. Andrie Huussen (H)
9. Prince Rodney (GB)
10. Dave Proud (GB)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Jorgen Hansen (D)
1. Dave Green (GB)
2. Hans Henrik Palm (D)
3. Kirkland Laing (GB)
4. Pierre Angelo Piras (I)
5. Alois Carmeliet (B)
6. Giovanni Molesina (I)
7. Richard Rodriguez (S)
8. Carlos Morales (S)
9. Dum Dum Pacheco (S)
10. Louis Arcaries (S)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Jo Kimpuani (F)
1. Clinton McKenzie (GB)
2. Colin Powers (GB)
3. Des Morrison (GB)
4. Perico Fernandez (S)
5. Giuseppe Martinese (I)
6. Antonio Guinaldo (S)
7. Fernando Sanchez (S)
8. Roberto Gambini (F)
9. Sylvester Mittee (GB)
10. Papperito Gimenez (S)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Charlie Nash (GB)
1. Jim Watt (GB)
2. Ken Buchanan (GB)
3. Ray Cattouse (GB)
4. Jose Louis Heredia (S)
5. Andre Holyk (F)
6. Giancarlo Usai (I)
7. Francisco Leon (S)
8. Manuel Velasquez (S)
9. Vincenzo Quero (I)
10. Antonio Puddu (I)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Carlos Hernandez (S)
1. Charles Jurietti (F)
2. Rodolfo Sanchez (S)
3. Maurice Apeang (F)
4. Natale Vezzoli (I)
5. Salvatore Liscapade (I)
6. Isidor Cabeza (S)
7. Nino Jimenez (S)
8. Cosimo Lavino (I)
9. Manuel Alcala (S)
10. Biago Pierri (I)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Roberto Castanon (S)
1. Cecilio Lastra (S)
2. Pat Cowdell (GB)
3. Dave Needham (GB)
4. Jimmy Flint (GB)
5. Manuel Masso (S)
6. Potito Di Muro (I)
7. Natale Gareddia (I)
8. Salvatore Melluzzo (F)
9. Ramon Marichal (S)
10. Les Prickett (GB)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion: Juan Francisco Rodriguez (S)
1. Johnny Owen (GB)
2. Vincente Rodriguez (S)
3. Luis De La Sagra (S)
4. Esteban Eguia (S)
5. John Feeney (GB)
6. Laurent Grimbert (F)
7. Valerio Nati (I)
8. Giuseppe Fossati (I)
9. Davy Lamour (GB)
10. Dave Smith (GB)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion: Charlie Magri (GB)
1. Manuel Carrasco (S)
2. Sabatino DeFilippo (I)
3. Giovanni Camputaro (I)
4. Rodriguez Cal (S)
5. Emilio Pireddu (I)
6. Mariano Garcia (S)
7. Filippo Belvedere (I)
8. Paolo Castrovilli (I)
9. Mario Bitetto (I)
10. Jaime Lozano (S)

Legend: (B) Belgium; (D) Denmark; (F) Finland; (G) Germany; (GB) Great Britain; (H) Holland; (I) Italy; (L) Luxembourg; (N) Norway; (S) Spain; (Sd) Switzerland; (Sw) Sweden; (Y) Yugoslavia.

BELGIUM

▲ **MOLENBECK**—Heavyweights: Al Syben decisioned Mohamed Galoul, eight. Light heavyweights: Fetiche Kassongho beat Esad Memeti, who was disqualified in the third.

▲ **LA LOUVIERE**—Heavyweights: Roberto Bosio TKO'd Roland Bayens, three.

▲ **Binche**—Welterweights: Jo Bollue and Mohamed Bouziani drew, six. Featherweights: Vincent Cipolla decisioned Haidar Nouredine, six.

▲ **ST. AMANDSBERG**—Lightweights: Rudi Haeck and Andre Blanco drew, six.

▲ **LAUWE**—Middleweights: Hendrik Seys and Nedza Memitti, no contest.

▲ **IZEGEM**—A crowd of 3,000 saw promoter Charles De Jager's show, made up of four professional and seven amateur contests. Avenamar Peralta (33) Spain, outscored ex-European heavyweight champion Jean Pierre Coopman, Belgium, 10. Robert Desnouck, Belgium, outpointed southpaw Uwe Meinecke, Germany.

▲ **BUGGENHOUT**—Welterweights: Alois Carmeliet outscored Giancarlo Barrabotti, eight.

▲ **OSTEND**—Welterweights: Frankie Decaestecker and Djibali Bathily drew, eight.

▲ **ZELE**—Junior welters: Dave Williams TKO'd Lucien Campo, five.

FRANCE

▲ **ST. MALO**—Welters: Djibil Bathily outscored Yannich Blandin.

▲ **LOUVROIL**—Junior middles: Huges Samo outscored Maurice Renaud, eight.

▲ **LE MANS**—Middleweights: Daniel Huyno outpointed Frederic Boissy, six.

▲ **NICE**—Welters: Jean Jacques Benchetrit outscored Jose Luis Ribeiro, Brazil, six. Light heavyweights: Joel Bonnetaz outscored Musaphata Kabunga, six.

▲ **SAINT QUENTIN**—Welterweights: Christian Blondel outpointed Charles Restivo, Belgium, six.

▲ **BERCH**—Junior lights: Michel Lefebvre outpointed Patrick Groblet, 10.

▲ **VITRY LE FRANCOIS**—Middleweights: Paul Maurice Prumier TKO'd Daniel Huyon, who retired with cuts in round three.

▲ **COUBERTIN**—Heavyweights: Sylvian Watbled kayoed Henry Patterson, two. Welters: Ronald Zenon TKO'd Sammy Roohard, the third man calling a halt in round four. This brought cheers from the spectators, who thought the referee should have given Roohad a standing eight-count instead. But Zenon was far ahead on points and hitting Roohard at will. Welters: Claude Lancastre outscored Hugues Samo, eight. Lightweights: Maurice Fico TKO'd Patrick Drelon, the third man calling a halt in round three. Drelon was down once in the second and twice in the third, after which the referee called a halt.

▲ **BOHAIN**—Welterweights: Gilles Elbilia outpointed Mutuawle Kibasa, six. Light heavyweights: Maurice Trepaint outscored Bernard Artone, six.

▲ **SAINT TROND**—Welterweights: Mohamed Bouziani outpointed Pierre Koenig, six.

▲ **CALAIS**—Middleweights: Jacques Chinon kayoed Michel Pagani, two. Welterweights: Thierry Sario TKO'd Jacky Peraire, who retired in the fourth. Lightweights: Francis Bailleal outscored Sana Kabore, six.

▲ **AIX LE CHATEAU**—Nov 24th. Lightweights: Patrick Drelon and Gilbert Helluin drew, eight.

▲ **MERICOURT**—Guy Caudron retained his French bantamweight crown, outscoring Dominique Cesari, 12.

▲ **LABEUVRIERE**—Junior welters: Jean Marie Touati TKO'd Serge Poulain, the third man calling a halt in round five because of cuts.

▲ **SIN LE NOSLE**—Christian D'Helf outpointed Cyrille Barbe, six.

▲ **MONT DE MARSAN**—Light welters: Pax Kibassa Maliba TKO'd Dominique Dusand, who retired with cuts in round five.

▲ **GRANDE SYNTHE**—Welters: Fred Coranson outpointed Achille Mitchell, 10.

▲ **LAVAL**—Junior welters: Mohamed El Gharbi, Luxembourg, TKO'd Serge Poulian, the third man calling a halt in round four because of cuts.

▲ **TOULOUSE**—Middleweights: Pierre Joly outpointed Oliveras Aroldo, eight.

▲ **NICE**—Jean Jacques Benchetrit TKO'd Lucien Campo, who retired in the fourth.

▲ **ANNECY** — Junior middleweights: Mario Norelli outscored Maurice Renaud, six.

▲ **DHUIZON** — Welterweights: Jean Pierre Moreau TKO'd Jean Paul Coppyn, the third man calling a halt in round one.

▲ **TROYES** — Featherweights: Patrick Goblet outpointed Jose da Silva, Brazil, eight.

▲ **DUNKERQUE** — Junior welters: In a non-title bout Jo Kimpuani kayoed Nelson Gomez, Brazil, three. Welters: Fred Coranson kayoed Lee Lloyd, Great Britain, two. Bantams: Dominique Piedeleu decisioned Antonio Franca, Brazil, six.

▲ **VITRY LE FRANCOIS** — Middleweights: Paul Maurice Prumier Flot decisioned Christian Chesini, six.

▲ **SAINT DENIS** — Middleweights: Franch Tiozzo outscored Christian D'Helft, six.

▲ **ARGENTEUIL** — Light heavyweights: Jean Louis Martin outscored Eric Kopec, eight. Welterweights: Alain Salmon decisioned Jacky Peraise, eight.

▲ **CIRQUE D'HIVER** — Heavyweights: Sylvian Watbled outscored Briton Bunny Johnson, 10. Welters: Ronald Zenon decisioned Horace McKenzie, 10. McKenzie made Zenon go all the way and never once gave in. It was the type of boxer Zenon needs if he is to progress in the welterweight ranks. Welters: Gilles Elbilia decisioned Pannich Blandin, eight. Junior welters: Maurice Fico outscored Alain Lefol, eight. Middles: Rufino Angulo TKO'd Daniel Huyon, who retired in round four.

▲ **NICE** — Louis Acaries retained his French welterweight title, outscoring Richard Rodriguez, 12.

▲ **SAINT MALO** — Georges Warusfel held on to his French junior middleweight, drawing with Claude Martin, 12.

▲ **LILLE** — Georges Cotin won the French lightweight crown, outscoring Didier Kowalski, 12.

▲ **LOURDS** — Heavyweights: Peter Holm outscored Fausto Constantino, six.

▲ **PARIS** — Light Georges Cotin kayoed Messaoud Bouchiba, two.

▲ **DUNKIRK** — Lightweights: Dan M'Putu beat Freddie Mensah, who was disqualified in round four. Welterweights: Fred Coransen decisioned Charlie Malakey, eight.

▲ **CALAIS** — Junior middleweights: Michel Pagani outpointed Michel Chapier, eight.

▲ **ST. MALO** — Welterweights: Djibril Bathily outscored Yannick Blandin, eight.

ITALY

▲ **ISEO** — Giuseppe Martinese outscored Giuseppe Russi, 12, for the Italian junior welter title.
▲ **CONCA** — Bantamweights: Franco Buglione TKO'd Franco Zurlo eight.
▲ **SERMONETA** — Middleweights: Antonio Crescenza outscored Lucianp Bolis, eight.
▲ **FORTE VILLAGE** — In an Italian featherweight title fight, Potito Di Muro outscored Natale Caredda, 12. Bantams: Helenio Ferreira and Ragga Murphy drew, six.
▲ **OSTIA** — Welterweights: Vincenzo Ungaro outscored Libero Moi, 10.
▲ **CESANO** — Junior middleweights: Donato Romano TKO'd Mario Favotto, five.
▲ **MANCIANO** — Welterweights: Patrizio Burini TKO'd Giovanni Maiorano, three.
▲ **ROME** — Welterweights: Guido Galletti kayoed Giancarlo Marinelli, five.
▲ **CASERTA** — Flyweights: Giovanni Camputaro outpointed Mariano Garcia, 10.
▲ **GORIZIA** — Mate Parlov outscored Tony Mundine, 12, in a final eliminator for the cruiserweight title.
▲ **RIMINI** — Welterweights: Pierpaolo Pira TKO'd Antonio Torsello, five.
▲ **ORISTANO** — Junior welterweights: Bruno De Montis outscored Giuseppe Agate, eight. Featherweights: Natale Caredda decisioned Miguel Franca, eight.
▲ **FIRENZE** — Lightweights: Bruno Simili TKO'd Antonio Pocai, five.
▲ **TARANTO** — In an Italian lightweight title fight, Giancarlo Usai TKO'd Vincenzo Quero, 11. Welters: Francesco Morrone TKO'd Franco Recpero, one. Lights: Giovanni Carrino outscored Emiliano De Souza, eight.
▲ **TURIN** — European heavyweight champion Lorenzo Zanon outscored Felipe Rodriguez, 12, to retain his crown.
▲ **FAENZA** — Lightweights: Joey Gibilsco outscored Giuseppe Agate, eight. Bantams: Valerio Nati decisioned Helenio Ferreira eight.
▲ **ROME** — Light heavyweights: Louis Pergaud TKO'd Fred Serres two. Matteo Salvemini TKO'd Nicola Cirelli II, in a bout for the Italian junior middleweight title.
▲ **CAGLIARI** — Welterweights: Antonio Stocchino outscored Ernesto Ros, eight.
▲ **ROME** — Jacques Chinon TKO'd Mario Romersi, eight. Welterweights: Spartaco Verna and Giuseppe Minotti drew, eight.
▲ **CHIVASSO** — Giuseppe Martinese retained his Italian junior welterweight title, outscoring Francesco Gallo, 12.
▲ **PESARO** — Junior welters: Juan Jose Giminez outscored Tommy Davitt, eight. Emiliano De Souza decisioned Eupremio Epifani, six. Middeweights: Samiano Lassandro kayoed Gen McEwan, two.
▲ **RIETO** — Welterweights: Salvatore Cascio outscored Guido Galleti, eight.
▲ **SAN SEVERO** — Junior welterweights: Giuseppe Russi kayoed Rene Martin, five.
▲ **GUALDO TADINO** — In an Italian welterweight title fight, Pierangelo Pira TKO'd Remo Costa, nine.
▲ **PIEDMONTE** — In an Italian flyweight title bout, Giovanni Camputaro TKO'd Sabatino DeFilipo, six.
▲ **PORDENONE** — Junior middleweights: Rocky Mattioli kayoed Ray Johnson, four.
▲ **ASCOLI PICENO** — In an Italian heavyweight title contest, Giovanni De Luca outscored Vasco Fausthino, 10.
▲ **FORLI** — Valerio Nati won the Italian bantamweight title, outpointing Giuseppe Fossati, 12. Bantamweights: Helenio Frerreira and Ragga Murphy drew, eight.
▲ **TRIESTE** — Light heavyweights: Tony Mundine TKO'd Ennio Cometti, six. Junior middleweights: Kenny Bristol outscored Ray Phillips, eight.

NORWAY

▲ **OSLO** — Welterweights: Josef Nsubuga kayoed Carl Bailey, eight. Lightweights: John Muwanga knocked out George Metcalf, eight.
▲ **VALLADOLID** — Carlos Hernandez, Spain, won back his European junior lightweight title, outpointing champion Rodolfo Sanchez, 12.
▲ **LEON** — European featherweight champion Roberto Castanon, Spain, retained his crown, knocking out Italian Eleno Ferreira, three.
▲ **SANTANDER** — Junior lightweights: Carlos Hernandez outscored Hugo Carrizo, eight. Junior welters: Jose Ramon Gomez Fouz outpointed Osvaldo Lopez, eight. Featherweights: Esteban Eguia decisioned Angel Oliver, eight.
▲ **LEON** — Junior welterweights: Perico Fernandez kayoed Peter Bio, six.

JACK A. TREE

BRITISH ISLES

Wembley Pool — American Jimmy Young, 218, outpointed British heavyweight champion John L. Gardner, 204½, over 10 by 98½-97½. Gardner was down for five in the final round, which may have made all the difference between victory and defeat.

This was the fight that was aimed at

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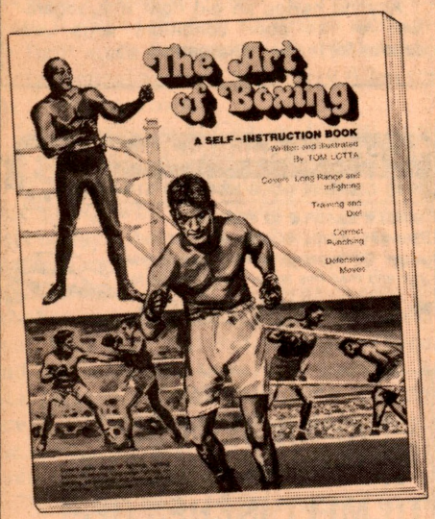

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proving Gardner's world status, and if he had won there were plans for a tilt at WBC champion Larry Holmes' title. Now John will have to wait a while longer, and maybe this isn't a bad thing. It will give John the opportunity of a few more bouts, and the extra experience could prove invaluable in going after the biggest prize in boxing.

Although Young's 1979 form indicated that he was not the same force as a couple of years earlier, when he beat George Foreman and was narrowly outscored by Ken Norton, the 31-year-old Philadelphian was the ideal test for Gardner, and John gave everything he had, with a fine display of aggression throughout.

Young boxed coolly, jabbed well, got home with some telling body shots (albeit he was warned for a low blow in round one) and, for most of the fight, took all Gardner had to offer, countering neatly and revealing good ringcraft.

Gardner took a couple of rounds to find his range, then came forward purposefully, punching away with both hands, and, by the fourth, had the American covering up. The latter used his right uppercut to good effect in round five and caught Gardner several times as John continued to press forward.

There couldn't have been much in it at this stage, and, when Gardner took the seventh, it seemed that things were going according to plan. But Young came back in commendable fashion, and did some forcing on his own account, his right uppercut especially looking impressive.

Gardner couldn't get home with a telling punch in rounds eight and nine, and just when Young might have been expected to tire, the American found some reserves of stamina and took command in the final round.

A combination of punches to the head put the British champion down for five, and, although he got up a bit wobbly, Young didn't launch an all-out attack, as he might have been expected to do. But there was only a few seconds to go anyway.

There were those who disputed the verdict, but it looked fair.

This fight had been postponed for a week because of an injury to Gardner in training, and it was afterwards revealed that John had been suffering from gout in his right toe, which was so painful that it kept him awake at night for a month.

Young had the superior skills, and that's why he won. Gardner said that taking the fight was a "calculated gamble," but that he had learned from it. It was a sensible assessment.

Britisher Charlie Magri, 112, successfully defended his European flyweight title for the first time by easily outpointing Spaniard Manuel Carrasco over 12 rounds.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
John L. Gardner (E)
1. Trevor Berbick (C)
2. Billy Aird (E)
3. Ngozika Ekwelum (N)
4. Tommy Kiely (E)
5. Les Stevens (E)
6. Tony Moore (E)
7. Steve Aczel (A)
8. Gordon Ferris (I)
9. David Pearce (W)
10. Joe Awome (E)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Lotte Mwale (Z)
1. John Conteh (E)
2. Mustapha Wasajja (U)
3. David Conteh (E)
4. Bunny Johnson (E)
5. Gary Summerhays (C)
6. Tony Mundine (A)
7. Ernie Barr (B)
8. Al Gattling (A)
9. Dennis Andries (E)
10. Stan Bogovic (A)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Ayub Kalule (U)
1. Alan Minter (E)
2. Kevin Finnegan (E)
3. Tony Sibson (E)
4. Fernand Marcotte (C)
5. Eddie Melo (C)
6. Frankie Lucas (St. Vin.)
7. Scorpion Ofosu (G)
8. Monty Betham (NZ)
9. Wally Carr (A)
10. Al Korovou (A)

LIGHT MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Kenny Bristol (Gu)
1. Maurice Hope (E)
2. Rocky Mattioli (A)
3. Pat Thomas (St. Kitts)
4. Jimmy Batten (E)
5. Elisha Obed (B)
6. Steve Hopkin (E)
7. Prince Rodney (E)
8. Dave Proud (E)
9. Neil Pattel (A)
10. Phil Davies (A)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Clyde Gray (C)
1. Dave Green (E)
2. Chris Clarke (C)
3. Hector Thompson (A)
4. Josef Nsubuga (U)
5. Kirkland Laing (E)
6. Sakarai Ve (Fiji)
7. Eddie Marcelle (T)
8. Steve Dennis (A)
9. Eddie Buttons (A)
10. Colin Jones (W)

LIGHT WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Obisia Nwankpa (N)
1. Lennox Blackmoore (Gu)
2. Jeff Malcolm (A)
3. Clinton McKenzie (E)
4. Colin Powers (E)
5. Des Morrison (E)
6. Frank Ropis (A)
7. Andy Broome (A)
8. Sylvester Mittee (St. Lucia)
9. Fitzroy Giuseppe (T)
10. Joey Gibilisco (A)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Hogan Jimoh (N)
1. Jim Watt (S)
2. Charlie Nash (I)
3. Claude Noel (T)
4. Ralph Racine (C)
5. Ray Cattouse (E)
6. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (U)
7. Nick Furlano (C)
8. Gaetan Hart (C)
9. John Muwunga (U)
10. Dave McCabe (S)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Eddie Ndukwu (N)
1. Pat Cowdell (E)
2. Dave Needham (E)
3. Jimmy Flint (E)
4. Patrick Forde (Gu)
5. Les Pickett (W)
6. Brian Roberts (A)
7. Nick LoBianco (A)
8. Roger Henry (A)
9. Henry Saddler (G)
10. Vernon Pernprase (E)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Johnny Owen (W)
1. Paul Ferreri (A)
2. Sulley Shittu (G)
3. John Feeney (E)
4. Davy Larmour (I)
5. Dave Smith (E)
6. Jim Bowen (A)
7. Charlie Brown (A)
8. Patrick Burns (A)
9. Glenn Walsh (A)
10. Wayne Evans (E)

FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Charlie Magri (E)
2. Pedro Solo (A)
3. Ray Amoo (N)
4. Stephen Muchoki (K)
5. John Hipwell (A)
6. Kelvin Smart (W)
7. Junior Thompson (A)
8. Roger Richens (A)
9. Garry Bice (A)
10. Dave George (W)

John Aba (Papua, New Guinea) is the junior lightweight champion. Contenders: Kazeem Armah (N), Mike Drayton (T), Larry Velesini (A), David Kotey (G).

Legend: (An) Antigua; (A) Australia; (B) Bahamas; (C) Canada; (D) Dominica; (E) England; (Fiji) Fiji Islands; (G) Ghana; (Gu) Guyana; (In) India; (I) Ireland; (J) Jamaica; (K) Kenya; (M) Malta; (N) Nigeria; (NZ) New Zealand; (S) Scotland; (To) Tonga; (T) Trinidad; (U) Uganda; (W) Wales; (Z) Zambia.

Magri won every round. The French referee, Edmund Horn, scored it 120-111, judge E. Muelenberg of Belgium 120-112, and M. Schouline of Holland 120-111.

These two had met before, in 1978, with Magri gaining a point victory, *and winning every round of the eight rounds.*

From which you may gather that the Spaniard is nothing if not tough. And that's an understatement. He took everything Magri threw, and that was plenty.

In fact, Magri finished the fight with a swollen right hand, and said that he hurt it in round five after hitting his opponent hard.

Carrasco remained upright throughout, a remarkable display of pluck. He bled from the nose, and there was a swelling around his left eye.

Magri got so far ahead that the bout could well have been stopped and it is to Carrasco's credit that he saw it through to the end. No one could have blamed him if he had chosen to retire.

It is obvious that there is no one in Europe to trouble Charlie, and that he is ready to tackle more formidable opposition.

Manager Terry Lawless leaves nothing to chance. Charlie had been voted runner-up to his stablemate, Jim Watt, for Boxer of the Year by members of the London Ex-Boxers' Association. But, as the LEBA Annual Dinner, at which the presentations took place, was a few days before Charlie's fight with Carrasco, manager Lawless thought it unwise to interrupt Charlie's training. So he didn't attend the function, a decision with which I wholeheartedly concurred.

Incidentally, Terry himself attended, and received a special trophy for being the manager of winner Jim Watt, who annexed the Dave Crowley Memorial Trophy, and both runners-up, WBC champ Maurice Hope and, of course, Charlie Magri.

Incidentally, Charlie did receive the trophy at the next meeting of the London Ex-Boxers' Association, which I attended, and he was accorded a great ovation by the 250 members present.

Former European and British light welter champ Dave Green, 148¾, striving to get back into world welterweight contention, outpointed American Dick Ecklund, 145¼, over 10 by 98½-87.

Ecklund was decked for three in round two, but revealed speed of foot and of punch that seemed to have Dave bemused in the early stages. The American was cut by the right eye in round four, and, in the following session, switched to southpaw.

Green didn't allow the quick-punching American to put him off, and gradually wore his man down.

Ecklund tried it all, dropping his arms to his sides and grimacing, but Dave was punching harder, especially to the head, and, as the fight proceeded, the American slowed considerably.

Nevertheless, Ecklund showed a great deal of promise for a 21-year-old, and must have pleased his mentor, former world middleweight champ Terry Downes, who was in his corner.

Green did what he had to do competently, and will undoubtedly benefit from a regular diet of fights.

Former British light middle champ Jimmy Batten, 155, outpointed George Walker, Highgate, 155¾, over eight by 79-78.

Walker had a swelling by the left eye and bled from the nose, but put up a creditable fight.

Batten was having his first bout since losing his title to Pat Thomas, and put it together well after an uncertain start.

Najib Daho, Manchester, 136, beat Chris Sanigar, 134½, the referee intervening when the latter was cut by the left eye in round one after only 1:55.

Steve Hopkin, Ely, 155½, outpointed Prince Rodney, Huddersfield, 150¼, over eight by 79½-78½. A crowd-pleasing contest, and an impressive, forceful performance by Hopkin, who must be considered a top contender for the British title after beating a man rated the number two challenger.

Dave Armstrong, Hackney, 166¾, beat Gordon George, Wood Green, 168¾, the bout being stopped after George had been decked by a left to the jaw.

▲ **Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre** — British and Commonwealth bantam champ Johnny Owen, 119¼ (weighed in with his clothes on), outpointed American Davey Vasquez, 119, over 10, winning every round. Scoreline 100-96.

A disappointing attendance saw Owen win convincingly over an opponent some six inches shorter. Johnny now chases the European crown that has so far eluded him.

Glen Adair, Barnstaple, 190, outpointed Winston Allen, Cardiff, 205, over eight by 79-78. Allen showed periods of aggression, but Adair countered well, and made light of his weight handicap.

Philip Morris, Ystrad, Mynach, 142, drew with Neil Brown, Norwich, 135, over six. Substitute Brown was decked in round four, but put Morris down in the following round.

Steve Cleak, Porthcawl, 127, outscored Mike Pickett, Merthyr, 124, over six by 60-58, not losing a round.

Gary Pearce, Newport, 144, outpointed Dill Collins, Llantwit Major, 142½, by 80-78½, over eight, not losing a round.

▲ **Midlands Sporting Club, Solihull** — Tom Collins, Leeds, 177½, outpointed Eddie Smith, Manchester, 166½, over eight by 79-78½, but many disagreed with the verdict.

Dave Campbell, Enniskillen, 141, beat Hugh Smith, Chapel Hall, 142½, the bout being stopped in round seven with Smith cut over the right eye.

Kelvin Smart, Caerphilly, 116, outscored Chris Moorcroft, Manchester, 122, over six by 59½-58.

Steve Ward, Leicester, 142, narrowly outpointed Bryan Clemow, Cambourne, 142, by 59-58½ over six.

Richard Avery, Pontypool, 149½, gained a six round points win over Chris Christian, Stoke Newington, 148, scoreline 59-58½.

▲ **Wolverhampton Civic Hall** — Gordon Ferris, Ennuskillen, 208, beat Austin Okoye, 199, the bout being stopped in round five after Okoye had been down three times. He did, however, manage to put Ferris on the deck in round three, if only briefly.

Roy Skeldon, Tipton, 176½, outpointed Trevor Cattouse, Balham, 178, over eight by 79½-77½.

Lloyd Hibbert, Birmingham, 145½, gained a comfortable points win over Nigel Thomas, Swansea, 174, scoreline 80-76 after eight, indicating that Lloyd won every round.

Mick Baker, Worcester, 136, beat Tommy Thomas, Tottenham, 140, who was decked and cut above the right eye, the bout being stopped in round one.

Steve Parker, Nottingham, 130½, defeated Jarvis Greenidge, Birmingham, 130, who retired at the end of round three with an eye injury.

Paul Keers, Hartlepool, outscored Mohammed Younis, Walsall, 122, by the narrow margin of 79-78½ over eight.

▲ **Tiffanys Ballroom, Hull** — Local favorite Ricky Beaumont, 136, made a sensational comeback after two years inactivity by knocking out veteran Bingo Crooks, Wolverhampton, 138, near the end of round one after decking him twice.

Crooks has always proved a difficult man to beat, and to stop him in this fashion was a fine performance. In 1978, Beaumont beat Bingo on points, a decision that was hotly disputed. This time, there could be no argument.

Former amateur champion Malcolm Heath, inactive for two years, 163, just scraped home against Joe Jackson, Coventry, 162, by 59-58½ over six.

Alan Storey, Sunderland, 122, beat Brinley Jones, Wales,

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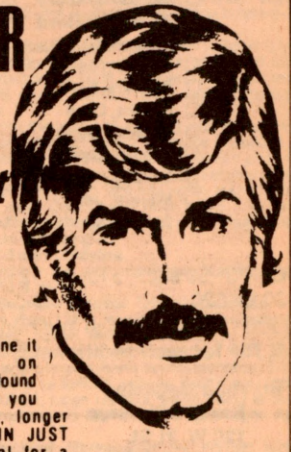

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122, the referee intervening in round three.

Bill Smith, Newcastle, 139, outscored Shaun Dirkin, 140, over four by 40-38.

▲ **Broadworth Miners' Welfare Hall, Doncaster** — Terry Mintus, Leeds, 197, beat Neil Malpass, South Elmsall, 221, to win the Central Area heavyweight title. Malpass was disqualified in round five for "butting" after being previously warned.

Mintus was cut over the left eye in round two, and was shaken by a right to the head in the fifth, when champion Malpass was warned for misuse of his head. The latter repeated the offense, and was ruled out.

Theo Joseph, Huddersfield, 179, outscored former British light heavyweight champion Tim Wood, Leicester, 180, over eight by 78½-78. A good performance by Joseph, rated the number 21 heavyweight in Britain prior to this bout.

Glen Rhodes, Sheffield, outscored Mark Osbourne, Grimsby, 135, by 40-38 over four.

Jeff Aspell, Swansea, beat Pat Smythe, Gainsborough, who was retired at the end of round two because of an eye injury.

Mal Tetley, Doncaster, 183, beat Alan Bailey, Doncaster, 184, the bout being stopped in round two.

Shaun Dirkin, Bradford, 133¼, drew with Ray Price, Swansea, 132, over six.

▲ **Seymour Hall, London** — It is always a sad occasion when a hall which has been used for boxing for many years becomes unavailable, and the closing-down of this venue is no exception.

However, the final show was first-class, in the high tradition of this arena, with Britain's number one bantamweight contender, John Feeney, Hartlepool, 122½, outpointing Lee Graham, Finchley, 127, over eight by 80-76½.

Graham was not at all overawed, and took the fight to his opponent at times, never allowing Feeney to relax. Lee started in promising fashion, jabbing accurately, and taking the play away from his opponent.

It was a different story in round two, when Feeney found his range and drove his man back with left hooks to the head.

Feeney proceeded to get on top with his more accurate punching, but Graham made an all-out effort in round six, forcing the Hartlepool boxer on to the defensive.

Lee's success was short-lived, however, and, as he faded, Feeney turned on the pressure, winning the last two sessions comfortably.

An attractive scrap, and much appreciated by the fans.

Albert Hillman, Farnborough, 156½, outscored Johnny Pincham, Crawley, 155, over eight by the narrow margin of 79-78½.

The fans threw in nobbins after this one, an excellent bout, with Hillman's better variety of punches just turning the scale. Pincham, cut severely on the head, indicated that he thought he had done enough to win.

Sid Smith, Forest Hill, 142, beat Sylvester Gordon, Peckham, 142, who was retired at the end of round five with a cut lip.

Barry Price, Crawley, outpointed Billy O'Grady, Deptford, over eight by 80-77, not losing a round in this lightweight encounter.

Tim Maloney, Brighton, 134, outscored Ray Price, Swansea, 133½, by 60-57½ over six, another winner who didn't lose a round.

Mickey Mapp, Charlton, outpointed Jeff Aspell, Swansea, 144, over six, yet another who didn't lose a round in his 60-57½ victory.

Debutant Mick Chmilowskyz, 191, kayoed another first-timer, Harry Pompey Allen, Lewisham, 188½, in round two after decking him for nine.

▲ **Liverpool Stadium** — In his first bout since losing his British middleweight title to Kevin Finnegan, Tony Sibson, Leicester, 167, beat American Robert Powell, 164, the referee intervening with just six seconds left in the opening round.

It was the first time that Powell had lost inside the distance, and he was completely outclassed. Sibson cracked home a left to the body that sent his opponent through the ropes, but he managed to climb back.

At that time, it looked as if the American wanted to retire. But he had to continue, and Sibson pounded away to the body with such venom that the referee jumped in and saved Powell from going to the canvas.

Sibson has now signed with manager Sam Burns, who also looks after Kevin Finnegan. It is expected that Kevin will chase the European crown, thus paving the way for Sibson to try and get his old title back.

Romal Ambrose, Leicester, 163, beat Dave Davies, Bangor, 165, who was retired at the end of round five. Davies had been decked for seven in round two, also down in round four and down twice in round five. He was cut over the left eye in round three.

After the fight, Davies announced, from the ring, over the mike, that he would not fight again. This met with nobbins and a standing ovation. Dave is a former Welsh middleweight champion, also a British amateur title holder.

Robbie Robinson, Liverpool, 138, outpointed George Schofield, Liverpool, 135, over eight by 80-76½, not losing a round. Schofield finished the fight with his left eye closed and his right eye practically shut.

After a year's inactivity, Steve Hill, Blackpool, 176, outpointed Ken Jones, Gorseinon, 175, over eight by 79-78.

Another to return after a long lay-off was Tommy Williams, Kirkby, 163, who had one pro bout nearly five years ago. Cut over the left eye in round four, Williams kept going to outscore Terry Matthews, Swansea, 160, over six by 59½-58.

Lee Hartshorn, Manchester, 147, outscored Al Stewart, Ormskirk, 147, by 79-78 over eight.

▲ **Top Rank Suite, Sheffield** — Herol Graham, Sheffield, 160, outpointed Errol McKenzie, Cardiff, 182, over eight by 79½-78, his 11th successive win, thus confirming his rating as the number six light middleweight in Britain.

McKenzie was down twice briefly, whereupon he seemed content to try and prevent his opponent from scoring by holding tactics.

There were warnings for both men in turn, and at the end of round four both were warned for the last time. After that, things improved, and Graham took over, clinching it with the two knockdowns.

Wayne Barker, Manchester, 154, confirmed a previous win by outscoring Jimmy Ellis, Sheffield, 155, over eight by 79-78.

Alex Penarski, Horwich, came in as a sub and outpointed Carlton Benoit, Hackney, over eight by 79-78½. A good performance, as the former was previously rated only the number 21 light heavyweight in Britain, with Benoit number eight.

Nobbins followed the points victory of Winston Ho Sing, Sheffield, 133, over Wally Stocking, London, 136, by 59-58 over six.

▲ **Wolverhampton Sporting Club** — After a lengthy period of inactivity, Harry White, 174½, outscored Eddie Fenton, Leicester, 175, over 10 by 98½-97.

Fenton started slowly, and never really got into the fight. White won by virtue of his better boxing.

Doug Jones, Swansea, 161, outscored Clifton Wallace, Birmingham, over six by 59½-58½.

Ian Murray, Birmingham, outpointed Jimmy Smith, Tottenham, over six by 59½-58½.

Don Aagesen, Birmingham, 126, drew with John Henry, Loughborough, 128, over six.

Mickey Kidd, Bedworth, 156, outpointed Kendrick Edwards, St. Albans, 157, over six by 60-57½, not losing a round.

▲ **Blechley Leisure Centre** — Pat Thomas, Cardiff, 153, kept his British light middleweight title by knocking out Dave Proud, Penge, 150¾, in round seven.

It was a bold bid by the 30-year-old Proud, who was inactive for five years because of a hand injury, and then came back to win eight out of 11 before this title shot.

Proud has always been noted for his immense pluck, and he needed it again on this occasion, being decked three times in round three. Cut by the left eye and bleeding from the nose, he somehow survived and actually took the fight to his opponent.

However, the knockdowns had sapped much of his stamina, and Thomas continued to dominate the fight with neat boxing and harder punching. Proud continued to bang away with both hands, but his power was waning, and Thomas kept cool, bided his time, and, when the opening came in round seven, took it. Dave took it too, right on the chin, and remained in a sitting position on the canvas while the count was completed.

It was a few moments before he had recovered sufficiently to take the ring mike and wish Thomas the best of luck, a sporting gesture.

The champion did what he had to do in efficient manner, and is a worthy title holder, but the fans will long remember Proud's courage.

Des Morrison, Bedford, 143, outpointed Billy Waith, Cardiff, 147, over eight by 79-78, but the decision was disputed in some quarters.

Both were cut, Waith by the left eye and Morrison by the right eye. Both boxed cleverly, as befitting two experienced pros, and there was little to choose between them at any time.

Sylvester Mittee, Bethnal Green, 140¾, chalked up his ninth successive victory by beating Mick Bell, Leicester, 138, the referee intervening in round two with Bell taking punishment.

Nobbins were tossed in after John Daly, Northampton, 136, had outscored Ray Price, Swansea, 136½, over six by 59-58½. It was toe-to-toe and punch-for-punch throughout, and probably Daly's greater work rate in the last round that clinched it.

Manny Gabriel, Kettering, 192, beat Reg Long, Peterlee, 183, the referee intervening in round three. Long had been down for a brief count and was cut by the left eye, but he protested strongly at the stoppage.

Terry Matthews, Swansea, 163½, outscored Curtis Marsh, Highgate, 161, over six by the narrow margin of 59-58½.

▲ **National Sporting Club, London** — British light welter champ Clinton McKenzie outpointed Roger Guest, Midlands Area title holder, Dudley, over eight by 79½-76½. The weights were not announced, but it was understood that both were inside the stipulated 143.

Guest came in as a substitute, and gave a good account of himself. McKenzie sustained a cut eye, but it did not appear to bother him, although five stitches were afterwards inserted.

The cleaner work came from the champ, but he was never allowed to relax by a courageous opponent.

George Danahar, Bethnal Green, 162½, outpointed Peter Gorny, Croydon, 163, over eight by 78½-77½.

Jeff Aspell, Swansea, beat Dave Aspill, Swindon, 147½, the referee intervening in round three after Dave had been decked and was cut severely by the left eye.

Wally Stocks, Isleworth, 138, outscored Shaun Dirkin, Bradford, 138, over six by 60-58, not losing a round. The margin did not seem uuite as wide as the scoreline indicated.

▲ **Tiffany's Ballroom, Glasgow** — Dave Douglas, Larkhall, outscored Liam Linnen, Coatbridge, over eight by 59-58. Both weighed 146.

Linnen was invariably fighting a losing battle; he was cut under the right eye and bled from the nose.

Gary Jones, Stirling, 176, outscored Nigel Savory, Leeds, 176, over six by 59½-58½.

▲ **Palace Hotel, Torquay** — Vernon Penprase, Plymouth, made it nine wins in as many bouts by outpointing Terry McKeown, Glasgow, 130, over eight, scoreline 79½-77½. It was the first promotion in this town in 13 years, but, alas, a much smaller crowd than expected.

Glenn Adair, Barnstaple, 186, outpointed Chris Devine, Chesterfield, 192, by 79½-78 over eight.

Walter Clayton, Sheffield, seemed unlucky to gain only a draw against Julian Boustead, Torquay, 135½, over four.

Dennis Sullivan, Plymouth, 143, outscored Richard Avery, Newport, 148½, over eight by 80-78½.

Mike Clemow, Cambourne, 141, outpointed Glen Rhodes, Sheffield, 135½, over six.

▲ **20th Century Sporting Club, Southend** — Jimmy Ellis, 155, beat Roy Commosioung, Luton, 156¼, the bout being stopped in round four after the latter had been decked.

A draw was the verdict after a crowd-pleaser between Garry Lucas, Liverpool, 127, and Dave Laxen, Ruislip, 127½, an eight-rounder that pitted the skills of Lucas against the aggression of Laxen. The result was the only one possible.

David Allen, Sheffield, 147½, eked out a close one over Les Wint, Thamesmead, 149, scoreline 79-78½ after eight. Wint was down in round three, and was making a comeback after an absence of two years.

John Ridgman, Borehamwood, 149, made it three straight as a pro by outpointing Tony Britton, Brixton, 148, over six by 59½-58½. The latter was floored in round four.

▲ **Arden Sporting Club, Birmingham** — Lance Williams, Manchester, 135, beat George McGurk, Jarrow, 141, who retired at the end of round six. Official reason — "tiredness."

Martin McEwan, Birmingham, 162½, outscored Joe

Jackson, Coventry, 162, over six by 60-58½, not losing a round.

Alan Storey, Sunderland, 121¼, won a six-round points win over Mike Pickett, Merthyr, 121½, scoreline 59-58½.

Mohammed Ali, Stonebridge, 161, confirmed a previous win by beating Art Brown, Birmingham, 162½, the bout being stopped in the sixth and final round when Brown was cut over the left eye. The latter was decked in round four.

▲ Anglo-American Sporting Club, Liverpool — Jimmy Brown, Liverpool, 128½, outpointed Jerry O'Neill, Glasgow, 128, by 79-78 over eight.

Nobbins rewarded the two boxers, who gave everything they had in a pulsating contest. Brown started fast, and built up an early lead, but O'Neill stuck to his task well to narrow the gap.

O'Neill bled from the nose almost throughout, but traded punch for punch. Brown was the better boxer, and finished strongly for a deserved win.

Terry Welch, Liverpool, 137¾, outscored Johnny Mount, Wishaw, 138, by 79-78 over eight.

Richard Avery, Newport, 146, outpointed substitute Dave Taylor, Liverpool, over six by the narrow margin of 59-58½. Not bad for a man who had taken this contest on only five hours notice.

Steve Enwright, Bradford, 127, didn't lose a round in outscoring Chris Moorcroft, Liverpool, 128, by 60-58½ over six.

▲ Anglo-American Sporting Club, Manchester — Wayne Barker, Manchester, 155, outpointed Chris Glover, Liverpool, 155½, over eight by 79-78½. It was Barker's eighth pro bout without defeat, his all-out aggression overcoming the superior skills of Glover.

Billy Hill, Blackpool, 161, had fortune on his side in outpointing Earl Edwards, Clapham, 162, by 79-78½ over eight. Hill started slowly, and many thought he never quite caught up.

Busy bantam Steve Enwright, Halifax, 124, took part in his sixth bout in only three months, and won for the fifth time by outscoring Ian Murray, Manchester, 123, by 59½-58½. It was Enwright's second win over Murray in three bouts.

In another bantam bout, Chris Moorcroft, Liverpool, 123¼, beat Carl Gaynor, Manchester, 120, the contest being stopped in round two after the latter had been down.

▲ Merton Civic Hall, London — Tommy Kiely, Brighton, 204, easily outscored substitute Terry O'Connor, not losing a round in his 80-76 victory.

Inactive for seven months, Kiely used this contest as a workout — and to test his new orthodox stance after previously boxing as a southpaw.

In round five, one of the ring boards gave way, causing the ring to sag. This was put right at the end of the session and there was only a few seconds' delay before the start of the following round.

Kiely was always in command without having to take any chances.

Barry Price, Brighton, 136, outpointed Gary Ball, Putney, 136, over eight by 79-78½, close enough for the verdict to be booed by a section of fans.

Johnny Pincham, Crawley, 154, narrowly outscored Alan Cable, Croydon, 154, over eight by 78½-78.

Steve Cleak, Porthcawl, 126, made it 2-1 in four fights with John Cooper, Mitcham, 126, outpointing him by 79-78 over eight.

Neil Brown, Norwich, 136, beat George White, Battersea, 138, the referee intervening in round five when White was cut by the left eye.

Colin Flute, Tipton, 192, gained a six-round points win over Martin Nee, Paddington, 204. Scoreline 59-58½, with Nee cut over the right eye and bleeding from the nose.

▲ Wolverhampton Sporting Club — Gary Cooper, Lymington, 145, outpointed Al Stewart, Ormskirk, over eight by 79-78.

Ian Murray, Birmingham, 140, drew with Dai Davies, Swansea, 143, over six.

Steve Simms, Newport, 131¾, beat John Henry, Loughborough, the referee intervening in round one after Henry had been floored.

Rocky Burton, Bedworth, 177, outscored John O'Neill, Swansea, 178, who was making his pro debut. Scoreline 59½-58 after six.

Mickey Kidd, Bedworth, 146, outpointed Gary Newell, Wolverhampton, 145, over six by 59½-58½.

▲ Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club, Bradford — Lee Hartshorn, Manchester, 148, outpointed Terry Petersen, Leeds, 148½, over eight by 79½-78.

Selvin Bell, Manchester, 128, outscored Paul Keers, Bradford, over six by 79-78½.

John Lindo, Bradford, 114½, drew with Winston Ho Shing, Bradford, 133, over six.

Dave George, Swansea, 114½, outscored Steve Enwright, Bradford, 123, over six by 59½-58.

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▲ CAPE TOWN — Good Hope Centre — SUPPORTS TO KORANICKI-KNOETZE:

Coenie Bekker outscored Gert Craemer, six, junior middleweights. This was regarded as an upset. Bekker, lacking in experience, started apprehensively, but found the range and forged ahead with snappy jabs and combinations. Craemer, from Knoetze's camp, hit hard and rocked his opponent, but Bekker withstood all the storms to win a hard fought victory.

Reggie Peters and Terence Dilima drew, four, bantamweights. Oupa Williams outscored Chilliboy Plaatjies, four, lightweights. Sipho Mange TKO'd Patrick Kohli, three, featherweights. Wiets de Beer outpointed Selby Saul, four, light heavyweights.

▲ EAST LONDON — Sisa Dukashe Stadium — Weilie Nkosinkulu scored a shock win as he pummelled Peter Mathebula to defeat in the ninth round to win the South African bantamweight title.

The challenger, aged only 20, tore into his opponent from the opening bell, scoring with left hooks and making good use of combinations. Mathebula was bleeding from the nose in the next round, but managed to put Nkosinkula on the defensive. The champion employed short uppercuts in the succeeding rounds, but Nkosinkula was biding his time. In the sixth, they slugged it out toe-to-toe, and Mathebula was cut above the left eye. Mathebula, spurred on by the injury, threw all he had, but Nkosinkulu used his longer reach to keep out of trouble. In the final round, Mathebula was caught by a left hook and fell to the canvas. He staggered up at "eight," but was in no condition to continue, and referee Les Muller stopped the fight.

Mzwandile Biyana outpointed Bramley Whiteboy, 10, to win the Cape junior welterweight title.

Victor Tladi TKO'd Mlungwana Mgxaji, three, junior flyweights. Nkosana Mgxaji outscored Victor Mpiyake, eight, lightweights. Tsietsie Maretloane outpointed Alfred Sibisi, eight, lightweights.

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MURATA-OKA
OPBF Bantamweight Title

TOKYO, JAPAN — Unbeaten Eijiro Murata retained his Oriental & Pacific Boxing Federation bantamweight title with a shutout unanimous decision over Yuji Oka (previously fighting as Jiro Takada) in 12 fast rounds at Korakuen Hall.

It was Murata's fourth defense since dethroning Korea's Yung-Shik Kim with a 12-round unanimous decision on December 14, 1978. Eijiro's record is now 16-0-1 with 10 knockouts.

The official scoresheets for the Oka bout were: referee Morita and judge Tezaki, both 120-114, and judge Ugo, 119-113. But the fight was not as easy as those cards seem to imply.

It may seem strange to foreign fans, but Japanese fighters sometimes change their names to change their luck. Oka had challenged Miguel Canto and Guty Espadas as Jiro Takada, but was unsuccessful.

Oka had fought Shuichi Isomagi to a controversial draw in his last outing, and was expected to make trouble for the less experienced Murata. Yuji's tight guard and tremendous durability did, in fact, annoy Eijiro, but the pace was dominated by the cool youngster, who is four years Oka's junior. Murata's steadiness and quickness put him in control, and his sharp rights to the face of Oka won him rounds three, five and six.

The seventh round saw Yuji's right eye puffed from Eijiro's many lefts. This round also went to the defending champ.

Oka, who had compiled a 31-11-4 record with 14 kayoes during his 10-year career, tried to score with his favorite one-two combos in round eight, but Murata was too fast for him. The crowd looked forward to Murata knocking out his rival as the bout proceeded, but this was not to be, although Eijiro dominated the ninth and 11th rounds and showed his best, by far, in the 12th session.

In that round, Murata was a windmill, battering Oka from all angles. The final bell came to the loser's rescue. As his trainer, the veteran Eddie Taunsend, later pointed out, Murata has to improve his punching power enough for him to finish off the tough guys.

Weights: Murata, 117½; Oka, 117¼.

Hideyoshi Horinaga, 130, stopped his losing streak and halted rugged Kazuaki Eguni, 129¼, in the fifth round of a scheduled eight-round semi-windup.

There were five four-rounders on the card, which was presented by Kaneko Promotions and telecast through TBS Television of Tokyo. About 1,600 fans attended at the Hall.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — Tall southpaw Akio Kameda, Japan's national welterweight champion, retained his title when he kayoed Tatsuo Ohara in 2:35 of the second in a scheduled 10-rounder.

Kameda, now 12-0 with 11 knockouts, thus registered his third defense in what was actually a tune-up for his meeting with WBC junior welterweight champion Sang-Hyun Kim in the spring. Akio, 22 and a six-footer, had little trouble catching Katsuo, and dropped him with a solid left near the end of the first round. Kameda sent Ohara down for the kayo with another good left to the jaw — following two quick combos — in round two. Ohara went out on the seat of his trunks.

Both entered the ring at 145½ pounds. If Kameda, an easy winner in his bouts so far, can take some of Kim's smashing lefts, he just may win the WBC title.

A supporting 10 saw tough and tricky Shigeo Takagi, 145½, knock out Masami Kikkawa, 144¾, with a heavy left uppercut to the liver midway in the second round.

Sensational ex-amateur Satoshi Koguchi, 118½, with a fine record of 70-3 as a simon pure with 43 stoppages, made his pro debut by halting Tomio Takenouchi, 119¼, at 0:46 of the sixth and final round. The taller, lanky Koguchi scored three knockdowns and one "ropedown," due, for the most part, to his countering rights. With more hand speed, Koguchi, an upright stylist, will have a bright future. He's 22 years old. Takenouchi is 9-9-1.

Another six-rounder saw Tadao Ishido, 138½, kayo Masataka Kuwada, 139, in the second round. Ishido is now 6-2 with five knockouts.

▲ SHIMIZU CITY — Suzuyo Gymnasium — Tsutomu (Dynamite) Matsuo, 153, halted Minoru Ono, 154, at 2:05 of the sixth in a scheduled 10-rounder. Matsuo had won the Japanese national middleweight crown with an upset TKO of Katsuji Esashi 48 days earlier.

The veteran Ono took the lead with stinging lefts in the first round, but his monotonous attacks were solved by Matsuo, an aggressive puncher, who dropped Ono with his vaunted powerful rights in rounds three and four. Matsuo swarmed over Ono in the sixth round, connecting with lefts and rights to the body and the button that sent Ono to the floor again. The ref declared a stoppage as the towel was tossed in, although Ono insisted he was capable of fighting on.

Matsuo is now 15-6-3 with 13 kayoes.

Unbeaten Goichi Oshi, 111½, won unanimous decision over Toshihiro Okumoto, 110¼, six.

▲ OKAYAMA — Budokan (Martial Arts) Gymnasium — Free swinging Takeshi Mine, 134½, earned a majority decision over Tatsuya Moriyasu, 134¾, a local favorite, in 10 dull rounds. Mine's aggressive rallies often missed their mark, but they looked superior to the loser's fewer counterpunches. The official scoresheets were as follows: referee Kashiwagi, 100-96; judge Kurume, 100-93; judge Uenaka, 98-98. Mine is the Japanese Boxing Commission's fourth-ranked lightweight. Attendance: 1,100.

▲ OSAKA — Prefectural Gymnasium — Former kick boxer Gen Tosa, 129, the JBC's seventh-ranked junior lightweight, remained unbeaten in his seventh pro bout by winning a unanimous decision over lanky, tricky Tomio Nakamura, 129¼, Osaka, 10. The scores were 99-95, 100-94, and 98-95.

Southpaw Jo Tatsuki, 125, this neary's Novice King winner, polished off Katsuo Kazama, 126¾, in 2:59 of the second round. Tatsuki, 9-2 with six kayoes, is a hard hitter with a rather loose defense. Kazama took a lot of punishment, and hit the deck on three occasions.

Shizuo Tosaka, 127¾, Chigasaki, and Yoshitaka Hinenoya, 131, drew, six.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — In his first fight since his kayo loss to Betulio Gonzalez, lefty Shoji Oguma, 113½, used good body punches to kayo ex-OPBF champ Tsutomu (Riki) Igarashi, 114, in .02 of the eighth round before 1,500 spectators.

Oguma, 28, displayed aggressiveness in taking rounds one, three, and five. Igarashi, also 28, endured Oguma's body shots, but found his punching power insufficient to cope with the ex-

WBC champion. In the eighth round, Shoji connected with good body punches and followed up with solid combos to the face. Igarashi went down, and failed to beat the count by referee Shimakawa.

Oguma upped his record to 32-8-1 with 19 kayoes. Igarashi is now 17-17-10 with six kayoes. Oguma is scheduled to face Chan-Hee Park for the world crown in Japan sometime in 1980.

Mitsuo Shima, 121¼, eked out a close but unanimous decision over Kenichi Ito, 122, 10.

Satoru Hirata, 122, won a unanimous decision over Masaru Yamamoto, Oguma's stablemate, 122, 10.

The card was promoted by Shichiro Kimura of Shin-Nippon Kimura Promotions.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — Busy and brave Hiroyuki Iwamoto, 122, kept his national junior featherweight title by taking a unanimous decision from Yu Kasahara, the former champ, 121¼, 10. Referee Uchida scored it 99-95, while judges Morita and Kanaya had it 99-96 and 99-94, respectively, all in Iwamoto's favor. Hirojuki, five years his opponent's junior at 22, offset Yu's superior punching power by tossing far more leather. The glass-jawed Kasahara, who lost to Korea's Soo-Hwan Hong in a bid for the WBA junior featherweight throne on February 1, 1978, dominated the fourth canto, shooting sharp rights to the champion's face. Iwamoto came back hard, however, utilizing his superior footwork. The champ's best was seen in the 10th round, when he nailed Kasahra to the ropes with a barrage of punches to his vulnerable jaw. The loser looked helpless, and referee Uchida declared a "ropedown." This last round rally won the day for Iwamoto.

Koki Ishii, 111¾, won a unanimous decision over Kazuyoshi Funaki, 111¼, 10.

The card, presented by Kawaguchi Promotions, drew about 1,800 spectators.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — OPBF featherweight king Royal Kobayashi, 128, was too strong for rookie Keno Kashi, whom he demolished with body punches at 0:28 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10-round non-title bout.

Kashi, 23, a southpaw, was not puzzling to Royal. The champion dropped him with vicious body punches midway in the second. More body shots sent Kashi to the deck in the fifth round, and Royal's lethal lefts dropped him for the count in the sixth.

Kobayashi, 30, is now 30-6 with 23 kayoes.

Unbeaten Caesar Sasaki, 158¾, knocked our former OPBF junior middleweight champion Tsutomu Hagusa, 158½, in the second session of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Fumiki Hanada, 153½, stopped veteran Mamoru Taira, 151¼, in the eighth and final round.

Some 1,500 fans were in attendance.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — The Shinjin-o tournaments of the East-Japan Zone came to an end with novices competing in the finals in 10 classes. The victors will meet the Western winners for the All-Japan honors in Osaka.

Junior flyweight: Katsuo Togashiki, 19 years old and 6-0-1, scored a shutout decision over hitherto unbeaten Masakuni Nakasone, 106¾, six.

Flyweight: Koji Kobayashi, 21 and 5-0-2 with three kayoes, a southpaw, halted the hard punching favorite, Hiroyuki Kobayashi, 111¾, in the second round.

Bantamweight: Southpaw Tsuguyuki Toma, 117¾, and Tomoki Kataya, 118, had to fight an extra (seventh) round after the official verdict after six rounds was a draw. The former's rally won it for him. Toma is now 6-0-1.

Junior featherweight: Aggressive Naoki Kobayashi, 122, kayoed Masayuki Kuzuya, also 122, in 2:55 of the second round. Kobayashi, 20, is now 7-1-1.

Featherweight: Yoshimitsu Azato, knocked out bearded favorite Akira Komori, 126, with a short left hook to the button in the fourth. Azato, an ex-amateur, is 18 years of age.

Junior lightweight: Lanky Kaneatsu Yamamoto, 134¼, dropped Haruo Narita, also 134¼, twice and knocked him out in 0:57 of the first round. Yamamoto, who has a style somewhat similar to Stanley Ketchel's, has now scored five straight one-round kayoes; he's 1. Narita had knocked Yamamoto out in the latter's pro debut. Kaneatsu was named Best Shinjin-o winner.

Junior welterweight: Slick punching Kirk Fujimoto, 138¼, outboxed and outmaneuvered Sadao Saito, 139½, to win a unanimous decision. Kirk, now 7-1-2 with four kayoes, took his ring name from his favorite actor, Kirk Douglas. Can he become "Champion"?

Welterweight: The winner was 37-year-old Akira Isobe, 146¼ and 2-0 with one kayo. Isobe, a rugged infighter who was once a member of the All-Japan ruby team, chased Takashi Mizumoto, 147, all the way, winning a unanimous decision.

Middleweight: Southpaw Sachimi Murakami, 157, 21 years old, won a unanimous decision over beer-barreled Michiaki Yamamoto, 160 and 28.

The Japanese Boxing Commission has ruled that each Shinjin-o winner will be rated 10th, giving him the opportunity to meet national top notchers.

Former world champs Fighting Harada, Kuniaki Shibata, and Koichi Wajima were Shinjin-o winners.

About 1,800 customers were at the Hall.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — Former Orient middleweight champion Junichi (Cassius) Naito, 154½, a 30-year-old southpaw, has had it! Another lefty, Naohito Suzuki, 153½, stopped him at 2:22 of the sixth round.

Suzuki, 24, upped his record to 6-1 with six kayoes. His lack of experience was clearly evident, however, as Naito, 27-9-2 with 13 kayoes, was able to avoid his rallies in the first two rounds. Cassius' counterpunches took the third and fourth rounds, too, but then he lost his stamina. Naito took some vicious combos to the face and went down in the sixth.

Naito, the son of an American father and Japanese mother, was knocked down twice more in the round and was an automatic loser by a TKO. Cassius, a rather wealthy man by virtue of managing a disco, should hang up his gloves. His sharp combinations were not there against Suzuki.

Tadashi Tomori, 108, floored Keisuke Yuguchi, also 108, three times and stopped him in the second of a scheduled 10-rounder. Tomori, managed by Misako, used swift combos to up his record to 12-2 with three knockouts.

About 2,000 fans were in attendance.

▲ TOKYO — WBA junior flyweight champion Yoko Gushiken was selected Japan's Fighter of the Year for the fourth consecutive time by the Boxing Section of the Tokyo Writers' Club.

ORIENTAL RATINGS
BY THE ORIENTAL & PACIFIC BOXING FEDERATION
(AS OF JANUARY 10, 1980)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Chong-Pal Park (K)
1. Dynamite Matsuo (J)
2. Rudy Siregar (I)
3. Byun-Grae Yuh (K)
4. Wally Carr (A)
5. Katsuo Eshshi (J)
6. Ceasar Sasaki (J)
7. Phil Davis (A)
8. James Callahan (J)
9. Torkano Marcos (A)
10. Cassius Naito (J)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Yung-Ho Oh (K)
1. Manny Ysrael (P)
2. Lee Yidano (K)
3. Battle Hawk Kazama (J)
4. Jenrob Muangsurin (T)
5. Barry Michel (A)
6. Ki-Hoon Kwak (K)
7. Lito Pena (P)
8. Vechayam Senaphitak (T)
9. Mitsuo Ohashi (J)
10. Nak-Yung Choi (K)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Eijiro Murata (J)
1. Ronald Sumalis (P)
2. Myun-Gan Moon (K)
3. Hurricane Teru (J)
4. Venice Borkorsor (P)
5. Sutan Rambing (I)
6. Paul Ferreri (A)
7. Billy Abato (P)
8. Yuji Oka (J)
9. Sang-Bong Lee (K)
10. Duen-e-san Luklongjun (T)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Tadashi Mihara (J)
1. Acquilano Nicolas, Jr. (P)
2. Michihiro Horihata (J)
3. Rocky Joe (I)
4. Yong-Taek Kim (K)
5. Wally Carr (A)
6. Jung-Shik Kim (K)
7. Kenji Shibata (J)
8. Phil Davies (A)
9. Ramon Dionisio (P)
10. Naoshito Suzuki (J)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Ryu Fukida (J)
1. Arman Bangoyan (P)
2. Tae-Jin Mun (K)
3. Johnny Manggi (I)
4. Chung-Il Choi (K)
5. Yasutsune Uehara (J)
6. Larry Valesini (A)
7. Masa Ito (J)
8. Johnny Sato (P)
9. Hyo-Song Kim (K)
10. Glenn Howard (A)

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Yung-Shik Kim (K)
2. Shoji Oguma (J)
3. Little Aguilar (P)
4. Yung-Hwan Kim (K)
5. Danilo Inocian (P)
6. Jiro Takada (J)
7. Chul-Ho Kim (K)
8. Il-Song Choi (K)
9. Allan Jardenil (P)
10. John Hipwell (A)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Dan De Guzman (P)
1. Chung-Jae Hwang (K)
2. Akio Kameda (J)
3. Kunphol Sakornpitak (T)
4. Thomas Americo (I)
5. Steve Dennis (A)
6. Fred Paster (P)
7. Mitsuo Kushikino (J)
8. Satanfa S. Pratip (T)
9. Jae-Hyung Yuh (K)
10. Eddie Buttons (A)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Royal Kobayashi (J)
1. Nene Jun (P)
2. Tae-Hwan Lee (K)
3. Nakprajan Kiatkamchai (T)
4. Spider Nemoto (J)
5. Gunawan Komara (I)
6. Paul Ferreri (A)
7. Sok-Tae Yun (K)
8. Tenyu Maruki (J)
9. Dommy Marolena (P)
10. Dorn Sornsakdisith (T)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Hong-Soo Yang (K)
1. Koichi Maki (J)
2. Sok-Chul Bae (K)
3. Dan Pisalchai (T)
4. Solo Pedro (A)
5. Frankie Cedeno (P)
6. Riki Igarashi (J)
7. Flash Jagdon (P)
8. Sangtong Sithumrong (T)
9. Kap-Chul Shin (K)
10. Nobuyuki Watanabe (J)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Sang-Mo Koo (K)
1. Eiichi Fukumoto (J)
2. Chong-Ho Kim (K)
3. Kwang-Min Kim (K)
4. Thom Singthanongsakdi (T)
5. Al Cordero (P)
6. Jeff Malcolm (A)
7. Wiennie Guinieta (P)
8. Masahiro Yokai (J)
9. Tongta Kiatvayupak (T)
10. Dong-Bok Lee (K)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Soo-Hyun Chung (K)
1. Ric Diamale (P)
2. Hiroyuki Iwamoto (J)
3. Morkasakdi Muangsurin (T)
4. Chong-Wo Baek (K)
5. Brian Roberts (A)
6. Kanekatsu Daito (J)
7. Rudy Patalinhug (P)
8. Sang-Yun Cha (K)
9. Mitsuo Shima (J)
10. Somkiat Sukothai (T)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Yong-Hyun Kim (J)
1. Kazunori Tenryu (J)
2. Chungcherng Borkorsor (T)
3. Sung-Nam Kim (K)
4. Guraman Ueda (J)
5. Junior Thompson (A)
6. Ver Libradilla (P)
7. Jung-Il Han (K)
8. Wonchai S. Pengpis (T)
9. Ric Barimbad (P)
10. Masaharu Inami (J)

Legend: (A) Australia; (I) Indonesia; (J) Japan; (K) Korea; (P) Philippines; (T) Thailand.
Note: The Oriental & Pacific Boxing Federation does not rate boxers currently rated by world boxing organizations.

Gushiken, along with unbeaten OPBF junior middleweight champion Tadashi Mihara, was also given the Knockout Award. Mihara, an unbeaten prospect with eight kayoes in as many pro outings, also got the Valuable Win Award and the Rookie Citation.

Another undefeated OPBF champ, bantamweight Eijiro Murata, won the Technique Award. He's a counterpuncher.

The Best Effort Award went to Kazunori Tenryu, 29, the Japanese national junior flyweight champion. He's only 4'9", but has made 16 straight defenses.

Special Awards went to former WBC lightweight king Guts Ishimatsu and former OPBF welterweight boss Ryu Sorimachi, both of whom retired during the year.

Best Amateur Boxer was Yukio Odagiri, who copped the national championship for the fourth straight time.

▲ YOKOHAMA — Cultural Gymnasium — The finals of the first World Junior Amateur Championships were held in eleven classes. The youths competing were between 17 and 20 years of age.

The tournament went on for a week, with 98 contestants from 21 countries. The U.S. team won five Gold Medals, the Soviet Union four, South Korea one, and Bulgaria one.

Marvis Frazier, U.S.A., and Alexandr Lebedev, U.S.S.R., were named "Best Junior Medalists."

Marvis, the 19-year-old son of former world champ Joe Frazier, extended his winning streak to 43-0 with 22 stoppages by halting Olaf Mayer, Austria, at 2:44 of the second round.

In that session, Marvis caught his stocky rival with a vicious right that dropped him for the mandatory eight-count. Frazier then resumed his battering, and the referee called a halt to save the rubber-legged Mayer from further punishment.

Marvis had knocked out Canada's Daniel Gouguen in two and unanimously outscored Russian Alexandr Yagubkin on his way to the final against Mayer.

The other results were as follows:

Light Heavyweight: Southpaw Alexandr Lebedev of the Soviet Union halted taller David Cross, England, with solid left uppercuts to the face in the second round.

Middleweight: Lefty Alexandr Milov, U.S.S.R., kayoed Petre Bornesch, Romania, with a short right in the first round.

Light Middleweight: Aggressive Alfred Mayes, St. Louis, stopped Nic Wilshire, England, in round two. Wilshire had been on the canvas twice.

Welterweight: Taller, faster, Milton McCrory, Detroit, won a shutout decision over Kaczmarek Jerzy, Poland, three.

Light Welterweight: Israel Akopokohian, U.S.S.R., eked out a unanimous decision over Canadian Rick Anderson in three dull sessions. Both were southpaws, and both missed a lot of punches.

Lightweight: 17-year-old southpaw Robin Blake, U.S., won a 3-2 decision over scrappy Vasili Shishov, U.S.S.R., three. Blake is talented and has a lot of speed. He fought gamely despite a cut over the eyebrow in the final round.

Featherweight: Yuri Gladishev, U.S.S.R., scored with sharp counters to South Korea's Min-Keun Oh (hitherto unbeaten in 29 contests) and won the decision after three.

Bantamweight: 18-year-old high school student Ki-Chui Park of South Korea outscored Ali Ben Maghenisa, the French national champion, three.

Flyweight: Peter Lessov, Bulgaria, outpointed Nathan Mattos, Hawaii, three.

Light Flyweight: Busy Robert Shannon, U.S.A., outscored Dong-Sik Hong, South Korea, three.

The Americans tended to be either hard hitters, or quick on their feet, while the Russians were sturdy, upright stylists.

KOREA

▲ TEKU CITY — Aggressive Yong-Hyun Kim, 107½, Korea's national champion, won the OPBF junior flyweight champion when he knocked out Sang-Il Chung, 108, in the second round of a scheduled 12-rounder. Chung, also a Korean, looked in bad shape, as he'd had to lose a lot of weight to make the 108-pound limit. Kim's record is 11-4-3.

OPBF junior featherweight champion Soon-Hung Chung, 124, stopped Sandy Torres, 127, Philippines, in the second round of a scheduled 10-round non-title go.

Filipino Sandy Noora, 128¼, amazed the crowd by finishing off Chang-Chul Kim, 123½, the KBC's second-ranked junior featherweight, in the first round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Heung-Sok Yuh, 136¼, won unanimous decision over Romeo Briska, 131½, 10.

Lee Choonsan Promotions.

▲ SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium — Kwang-Min Kim, who challenged for Antonio Cervantes' world junior welter crown in 1979, outpointed Fitzroy Guissepi, 141, Trinidad and Tobago, 10.

Seung-Hoon Lee, 118¾, won unanimous decision over Jose Tito, 116¼, 10.

▲ TEKU CITY — OPBF junior welterweight champion Sang-Mo Koo, 141¼, knocked out Mike Benitez, also 141¼, Philippines, in the third round of a 10-round non-title bout.

Hwang-Jin Kim, 112, won a unanimous decision over Mario Kakika, 108¼, 10.

Lee-Hoon Promotions.

▲ **SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium —** Fast rising Tae-Shik Kim, a hard hitter and the WBA's eighth-ranked flyweight, halted Tsutomu (Riki) Igarashi, Japan's ex-OPBF flyweight leader, in the fourth round. Kim simply overwhelmed the 28-year-old Igarashi with incessant punches at close range.

Riki was downed at the ropes for the mandatory eight-count in the first round. He looked surprised at Kim's aggressiveness and was unable to respond with his familiar body punches.

Igarashi hit the deck in round two and again in the third. A towel was tossed in as he was banged in the fourth canto. Tae-Shik is now one of the most popular fighters in Korea. He scaled in at 112¾ to 113 for Igarashi.

National Korean welterweight king Joo-Suk Kim, 153½, won a unanimous decision over Chong-Bae Chang, 154, in a 10-round non-title bout.

Wojin Promotions.

▲ **PUSAN — Kooduk Stadium —** Overweight flyweight Seung-Hoon Lee, 117¾, won a unanimous decision over Chungchereung Bocosol, 118, 10.

Yung-Hwan Kim, ranked third in the newly created "junior bantamweight class" by the KBC, was an upset winner over Chul-Ho Kim by a unanimous decision, 10.

Another junior bantam, Il-Sung Choi, 114¾, halted Jae-Yung Song, also 114¾, in the ninth round of another scheduled 10-rounder.

Hangjin Promotions.

▲ **SUNGNAM CITY —** Korean national junior featherweight champion Chong-Woo Baek, 121, won a unanimous decision over Maeng-Hee Chun, 122, 10, and kept his crown.

▲ **SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium —** Hard punching Myung-An Moon, 117½, won the vacant Korean bantamweight title, knocking out Dong-Yul Oh, 118, in the fifth round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Hyo-Sung Kim, 131¾, the KBC's second-ranked junior lightweight, won unanimous decision over Kee-Ho Chung, 130½, 10.

PHILIPPINES

▲ **QUEZON CITY — Araneta Coliseum —** Hard punching Arnel Arrozal, 112, won the vacant Filipino flyweight title with a sixth round TKO over William Develos, also 112, in a scheduled 12-round bout.

Filipino junior middleweight king Aquilino Nicholas, Jr., 154¾, won unanimous decision over Joe Willisco, also 154¾, 10.

Fel Viesca, Jr., 126, won unanimous decision over Thai veteran Tanomchit Sukothai, 124, 10.

Dony Soriano, 135, was held to a split draw by Star Lantapan, 134½, 10.

The card was presented by Galorde, Inc., headed by former world junior lightweight champion Gabriel (Flash) Elorde.

▲ **MANILA — Rizal Memorial Coliseum —** Rey Tam, 130, a southpaw, outscored Filipino national featherweight king Nene Jun, 128½, in a non-title 10-round bout. Tam, a former Oriental junior lightweight champ, had been going downhill since his loss to WBC boss Alexis Arguello in 1978.

Rudy Patalinghug, 119, won an upset unanimous decision over Rick Diamale, 119½, 10. Diamale was the Filipino national junior featherweight champ and the top contender of the OPBF. This was listed as a non-title bout.

Jaime Sanama, 123, won a unanimous decision over tall Rey Orbino, 123½, 10.

Joe Francisco, 127, an unknown, knocked out Nick Caputol, 128, the seventh-ranked junior lightweight in the Philippines, in the second round.

Augustin Garcia was the promoter.

▲ **ANGELS CITY —** Star Dayanan, 118, easily knocked out Ali, Jr., also 118, in the second round. Dayanan is the Filipino Gmes & Amusements Board's sixth ranked bantamweight contender.

▲ **BAGUIO CITY —** Franco Torregosa, 116, won a unanimous decision over Little Balsigan, 121, 10.

Melchor Degsi, 113, TKO'd Ali Formentera, 111, in the sixth round.

▲ **DAVAO —** Rick Barimbad, 111, won unanimous decision over Jun Resma, 111, 10. Barimbad is ranked third by the GAB.

Rey Naduma, Jr., 125, was held to a majority draw by Al Vargas, 126, 10.

▲ **CABANATUAN CITY —** Rene Sedayon, 122, won a unanimous decision over Rudy Garcia, 120, 10. Felixberto Jardenil was the promoter.

▲ **SAN FERNANDO —** Jimmy Gonzalez, 145, TKO'd former national champ Armando Boniquit, 150, in the third round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

▲ **SAN FERNANDO —** Romy Cunanan, 128, TKO'd Romeo Olivetti, also 128, in the second round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Former national champion Fred "Bruce Lee" Basa, 130, lost a majority decision to Nitoy Bantillan, 130, 10.

Boy Reyes, 131, TKO'd Virgilio Berdeflor, 130, in the seventh round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Mike de Guzman, 145, stopped Felix Montanez, 144, in the 10th and final round.

Flyweight Rodrigo Saonoy, 114, eked out a majority decision over Brigildo Canada, also 114, 10.

Antonio Esguerra was the promoter.

▲ **OROQUIETA CITY —** Leo Rendaje, 110, won unanimous decision over Mac Espanola, also 110, 10.

▲ **DAVAO —** Diego de Villa, 110, won a unanimous decision over Jocie Cels, also 110, 10.

▲ **MANILA — Rizal Memorial Coliseum —** Dommy Marolena, 125½, won unanimous decision over Fel Viesca, 125, 12. Dommy is the GAB's top featherweight contender.

Impresario Ramon Coscolluela's card also included the four following 10-rounders:

Neptali Alamag, 122½, won unanimous decision over San Sacristan, also 122½.

Lito Pena, 135, TKO'd Pete Alferez, also 135, in the fourth.

Lord Esmero, 107, won unanimous decision over Lennon Arcega, 106.

Frank Cedeno, 114, won unanimous decision over Pablo Pepito, 113½.

THAILAND

▲ **BANGKOK — Lumpinee Stadium —** Southpaw Monsayarm H. Mahachai, 114, stopped Kingpetch Vachirasakdi, 119, ranked seventh by the Thailand Boxing Commission, within a minute of the opening round. Mahachai, the TBC's second-ranked flyweight, was knocked out by Yoko Gushiken in a bid for the WBA junior flyweight title on October 9, 1977.

▲ **BANGKOK — Lumpinee Stadium —** Dungprasert Sorsombutr, 122, won a very controversial split decision over Sapeatho Singchoepherng, 123, six rounds. Singchoepherng fought very aggressively.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Hard hitting Alibaba Luklongton, 118, the TBC's third-ranked bantamweight, got off the canvas in the second and demolished Saksami Ch. Sirirat, 117, in the fifth round.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Thanee P. Panthong, 115, the TBC's sixth-ranked junior bantamweight, lost an upset decision to Archane Sukhothai, 114, six.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Komleg Sorthanikul, 110, dropped fast-rising rookie Daibiu Sithsaneh, 112, twice in round three, and won an impressive unanimous decision, six.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Pornchai Sakdiphonthong, 112, the TBC's fifth-ranked junior flyweight, won when Somchai S. Sang-U, also 122, was disqualified in the second round. He kicked Sakdiphothong brutally.

The loser might do well to return to the kick-boxing field.

JOE Y. KOIZUMI

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

▲ MT. PRITCHARD — Community Club — Big Jim West, 128½, had, as expected, far too much on the ball for Glenn Howard, 128, in their scheduled 12-round Australian junior lightweight title tilt. Referee Trevor Christian stepped between them in the sixth round to apply a standing count but, at that moment, the towel came from Howard's corner and Christian acknowledged it by stopping the bout.

Howard had claimed the title, but West was the official champ.

As far as I was concerned, Howard was a boy on a man's errand, but he startled West in the second round by dropping him to one knee, something West acknowledged on the mike after the contest. "That's only the second time I've been knocked down," he said. Jim has had 67 fights and has never been stopped.

Big Jim was on one knee for only a second and, when the bout resumed, he quickly got Glenn into all sorts of trouble. Although Howard fought gamely, it was West who dictated the course of the contest. Big Jim was in a different league.

Graham Bell, 139, knocked out Greg Weston, 142, in the fourth round of a scheduled eight-rounder. Benny Tabua, 152, TKO'd Col Eckford, 151, in the fifth round of a scheduled six. Clint Brown, 147, outscored Tony Adcock, 147, four. Sparrow Freeman, 118, outpointed Kirk Davis, also 118, three.

QUEENSLAND

▲ REDCLIFFE — Showground — Des Sykes, 150, knocked out Robert Hickling, 146, in the eighth round of a scheduled 10-round bout.

Billy Facer, 132, and Steve Button, 128, drew, 10. Ian Looker, 158, kayoed Ralmo Brown, 161, in the third round of a scheduled six-rounder. Mick McDermott, 126, outpointed John Kemp, 123, four. Frank Baker, 166, knocked out Gary Simpson, 166, in the second round of a scheduled four-rounder. Dave Edwards, 151, kayoed Fred Douglas, 148, in the second round of another scheduled four.

VICTORIA

▲ MELBOURNE — Festival Hall — The Australian welterweight title changed hands when smart boxing Lawrence "Baby Cassius" Austin, 145⅔, outpointed Steve Dennis, also 145½, over 15 rounds.

This is Austin's third Australian title. He won the lightweight crown in 1976, but relinquished it because of increasing weight. Then he won, lost, re-won, and re-lost the junior welter diadem, the last time to Jeff Malcolm, who also beat Austin in a return.

Dennis is a dynamite puncher, but he could not catch Baby Cassius cleanly with a shot — not even when Austin slowed over the last three rounds because of a wrenched knee.

Stan Bogovic, 172, continued his unbeaten streak with a clear points win over comebacking Paul Barrett, 175, in the main support over eight.

Robert Devlin, 164, outpointed Joe Mario, 163, six. Mick Parkinson, 122, and Ricky Duggan, 125, drew, four.

▲ WILLIAMSTOWN — Town Hall — Barry Michael defended his Australian lightweight title against his leader contender, Jimmy Brown, also 135, in a scheduled 15-round bout. The fight, however, ended in the first round, when Barry received a bad gash over the eye, brought about by an accidental contact with Brown's elbow. Referee Bruce Douglas declared the bout a technical draw. A rematch has been ordered, and will take place when Michael's injury has cleared.

Peter Lund, 154¼, outscored Robert Devlin, also 154¼, six. Kid Preston, 142, outpointed Joey Collins, 144, six. Danny Carey, 199½, outscored Plugger Dodd, 207½, three.

So ended 1979, not a boom year for Australian boxing. In fact, it was the second worst year since 1966. In 1979, there were only 114 pro boxing promotions, a drop of 19 from 1978 but up 13 on 1977. A total of 482 contests took place, with 343 Australian boxers active in addition to eight foreigners.

Compare these figures with those of other years of the past decade. In 1970, there were 378 promotions at 71 venues featuring 2,403 contests with 1,308 active boxers. In 1971, there were 359 promotions at 66 venues, with 2,205 contests and 1,176 boxers. The figures continued to drop. In 1972, there were 277 promotions, 933 boxers, and 1,633 contests. In 1973, there were 241 promotions, 738 boxers, 1,330 contests. In 1974, 222 promotions, 607 boxers, 1,048 contests. In 1975, 166 promotions, 450 boxers, 768 contests. In 1976, the drops were to 128 promotions, 339 boxers, 560 contests. The low was in 1977, with 101 promotions, 341 boxers, 472 contests. In 1978, there was a lift to 133 promotions, 400 boxers, and 584 contests.

What caused the decline? First, we must look at the cause of the upsweep after the low sixties. Lionel Rose won the world bantamweight title in 1968. Johnny Famechon won the world featherweight crown in 1969. Both are Aussies. Both were popular. TV climbed on the bandwagon and that brought new fans and new boxers. Press coverage was good. Television, however, faulted by showing only a small circle of boxers — those on top of the bills — without promoting the prelim boys. Ratings fell after some time, so TV began to promote the prelim lads — but recorded, not live, sending them late interstate. Ratings fell, so TV withdrew.

After the closing of Sydney Stadium in 1970 (to make way for a railway), most boxing activity in Sydney was centered in Sporting and Returned Soldiers clubs. The city media will not promote club activities for some reason and without publicity, the sport fell, as any sport would have.

There is another reason for the slump in boxing in this country, and it is to be found within the boxing ranks. There is bickering and sniping. Instead of pulling together, we find sabotage of some promotions. We find trainers standing over promoters. We find distrust. There are some who are not trying to help boxing, but are just out for themselves. They are, of course, short-sighted.

What is needed? More togetherness within the ranks, the re-introduction of TV, and more support from the big press.

But, when asked if television of boxing would return, a big TV boss replied: "Not until a big drawcard comes along."

This is putting the cart before the horse. TV can make big drawcards, as was proven a few years ago. Another Rose or Famechon could, and would, develop.

Of the 114 Australian promotions in 1979, 79 were held (at 21 venues) in New South Wales. Other states, numerically, were small potatoes. Victoria had 19 promotions at eight venues. Queensland had 14 promotions at five. Tasmania had two promotions, both at the same venue. South Australia, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory were inactive.

The busiest venues were the South Sydney Junior Leagues Club, Kingsford, with 23 promotions, Mt. Pritchard Community Club with 11, the Manly-Warringah Leagues Club, Brookvale, with 10, and Brisbane Festival Hall, Queensland, with nine.

Australia's Boxer of the Year was Tony Mundine, who holds the national heavyweight and light heavyweight titles. Tony had eight bouts, winning seven. His only loss was on a close unanimous decision to Mate Parlov in Gorizia, Italy, on September 26. (The referee and judges had margins one one, two and three points in this 12-round semi-final eliminator for the first WBC "world cruiserweight title." Mundine was outweighed by some 14 pounds.

The most active Australian was bantam-cum-feather Sparrow Freeman, with 23 bouts in 1979. (He drew a shower of coins from ringsiders in almost all of them.) Sparrow began his pro career in February, 1978, and had had 53 paid contests by the end of 1979.

Next most active was another "shower fighter," Paul Baker, who won the New South Wales lightweight title in 1979. Baker had 15 contests in 1979. He began his career in February, 1977, and had taken part in 64 bouts by the end of 1979.

There were 17 legitimate Australian title fights in 1979, with five more billed as title tilts without official blessing.

Here is a rundown of the Australian champions coming into 1980:

Heavyweight: Tony Mundine. Light heavyweight: Tony Mundine. Middleweight: Wally Carr. Junior middleweight: Carr also holds this title, but his manager recently stated that he will not make 154 pounds again. That leaves Phil "Spider" Davies and Billy Johnstone to contest the vacant throne. Welterweight: Lawrence "Baby Cassius" Austin. Junior welterweight: Jeff Malcolm. Lightweight: Barry Michael. Junior lightweight: Big Jim West. Featherweight: Paul Ferreri. Junior featherweight: Brian Roberts. Bantamweight: Paul Ferreri.

Steve Bell, who held the Australian flyweight title, had both legs broken in an accident and relinquished the championship. His two contenders, Pedro Solo and John Hipwell, were matched for the title, but Hipwell became ill and the bout was cancelled. Nothing more was heard of Hipwell, so Solo was handed the title on a platter, even though he did not box in 1979. He's a Henry Armstrong type with a record of 10 wins in 15 contests (one draw). He claims two more contests while overseas, but has not produced evidence, and no one has identified the two opponents.

So much for 1979. On January 6, 1980, Australian boxing lost a great friend in Merv Williams, as Australian as kangaroo, a wit, a former teacher, a referee, a longtime journalist, and a boxing commentator. As a boxer, he challenged for Australian titles three times. He was unsuccessful, but he did manage to win the two State crowns. Merv was 77, and one of the most respected men in Australia — in any field. A sad loss.

RAY MITCHELL

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Worldwide fight results

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Larry Holmes kayoed Lorenzo Zanon, 6
(Retained WBC Title)
Michael Dokes iced Earl Tripp, 1
Terry Mims knocked out Alfio Righetti, 1
Scott Frank stopped Ron Stander, 1
Jimmy Ingram decisioned Al Dominey, 10
Marty Monroe stopped Grady Daniels, 5
Kevin Isaac drew with Leroy Caldwell, 10
Greg Sorrentino decisioned Don Halpin, 10
Arnold Sam halted Val Gasaway, 3
Bruce Scott beat Vern Johnston, 8
Tom Trimm knocked out Paul Lawson, 3
Bruce Granham iced Jerry McIntyre, 1
Ed Jones halted Billie Joe Thomas, 4
Ed Jones stopped Rocky Gonzales, 1
Jesse Prieto beat Jose Herrera, 6
Tony Perea beat Yaqui Meneses, 6
Perscell Davis kayoed Bruce Scott, 1

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Rudi Koopmans decisioned Ennio Cometti, 12
(Retained European Title)
Bobby Cassidy halted Kid Samson, 5
Otis Gordon kayoed Carl Ivy, 4
Bill Tuttle stopped Mike Grant, 3
Henry Hearns halted Lee Burkey, 2
Richie Giaquinto iced Mike Thomas, 1
James Williams kayoed Junior Albers, 6
Javon Pratt stopped Al Wilson, 2

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Tony Sibson decisioned James Waire, 10
Dwight Davison iced Simon Smith, 1
Richie Bennett beat Bennie Briscoe, 10
Ralph Hollett decisioned Fernand Marcotte, 12
John LoCicero kayoed Carlos Betancourt, 1
Henry Bunch stopped Malik Muhammad, 3
John Molander halted Malik Muhammad, 1
Wilford Scypion knocked out Norris McKinney, 3
Willie Lee beat O'Dell Leonard
Paul Jones halted Darryl Dorsey, 2
Mike Clark beat Rudy Cruz, 2
Gerald Bouchard stopped Terry Rondeau, 6
Alejos Rodriguez kayoed Danny Donnatto, 4
Giovanni Bovenzi stopped Ray Coleman, 4
Jimmy Gradson beat Gary Broughton, 10
Willie Featherstone stopped Jo Jo Dent, 2
Ted Sanders beat Ron Brown, 10
Andoni Amani beat George Lee, 6
Bobby Watts kayoed Freddie Johnson, 3

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Dan Snyder decisioned Wilson Bell, 8
Nino Gonzalez halted Mike Michaud, 7
Roger Leonard kayoed Tyrone Phelps, 3
Rocky Fratto beat Jaime Rodriguez, 10
Steve Delgado won on disqualification from Nick Ortiz, 5
Daryl Penn stopped Julio Gomez, 7
Wayne Barker drew with Terry Matthews, 8

WELTERWEIGHTS
Roberto Duran stopped Joszef Nsubuga, 4
Bruce Curry halted Jimmy Jackson, 7
Floyd Mayweather kayoed Calvin Schaughter, 3
Babs McCarthy knocked out Miguel Garcia, 4
Steve Hearon halted Tom Pinner, 3
Sal Lopez stopped David Madrid, 6
Allan Clarke decisioned Larry Hafey, 8
Dave Allen beat Richard Avery, 8
Johnny Compo decisioned Joe Johnson, 6
Chris Lenson stopped Alfredo Martinez, 1
Thomas Hearns kayoed Fighting Jim Richards, 3

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Saoul Mamby iced Tom Tarantino, 1
Jeff Passero halted Clifford Smith, 3
Ray Mancini stopped Charlie Evans, 2
Monroe Brooks halted Camilo Ibarra, 5
Arturo Leon decisioned Roberto Madrid, 10
Sammy Burke stopped Blas Gordillo Chairez, 6
Miguel Estrada and Rodolfo Rivas drew, 10

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Pete Padilla decisioned Marco Barahona, 10
Herman Montes stopped Chuy Rodriguez, 1
Termite Watkins halted Jimmy Martinez, 2
George Casher kayoed Pat Brennan, 1
Johnny Summerhays defeated Pedro Acosta, 10
John Verderosa halted Maximo Luciano, 5
Al Ford stopped Danny Stokes, 3
Dave McCabe decisioned Martin Galleozzie, 12
Sterling McPherson kayoed Joe Willie Johnson, 3
John Morgan stopped James Busceme, 8
Juan Venegas kayoed Rudolfo Guevarra, 5
Efraim Flores and Arturo Munoz drew, 6
Jack Rosas beat Derrick Cuttino, 6
Sean O'Grady stopped Ramiro Hernandez, 4
Herman Montes beat Fili Ramirez, 10
Randy McNurlin kayoed Angel Nemdiola, 1

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Alexis Arguello stopped Ruben Castillo, 11
(Retained WBC Title)
Greg Coverson halted Fausto Pena, 2
Roberto Garcia beat Dennis Quimayousie, 10
Cisse Mory decisioned Roberto Garcia, 10
Joe Phillips defeated Lionel Harney, 10
Carmelo Negron halted Bobby Alexander, 10
Ricardo Jimenez kayoed Andres Armendariz, 2
Leo Martinez stopped Justo Ruiz, 2

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Salvador Sanchez stopped Danny Lopez, 13
(Won World Title)
Eusebio Pedroza decisioned Spider Nemoto, 15
(Retained WBA Title)
Rocky Lockridge stopped Sammy Goss, 5
Juan LaPorte halted Jean LaPointe, 7
Joe Rivera kayoed Hassan Ali, 2
Tony Rocha knocked out Francisco Vasquez, 3
Juan (Kid) Meza kayoed Simon Fontanel, 2

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Wilfredo Gomez halted Ruben Valdez, 6
(Retained WBC Title)
Leo Randolph stopped Joe Zaldivar, 2
Paul Keers halted Mohammed Younis, 6
Derrik Holmes knocked out Livio Nolasco, 2
Fred Roach iced Roberto Flores, 1
Nicky Perez kayoed Angel Salinas, 2

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Jeff Chandler stopped Javier Flores, 10
(Won NABF Title)
Alberto Sandoval halted Manuel Ruelas, 4
Leo Randolph decisioned Baby Kid Chocolate, 10
Johnny Carter stopped Mike Stuart, 9
Oscar Muniz beat Joaquin Acuna, 10
Seung Hoon Lee decisioned Rafael Orono, 15
(Won Vacant WBC Super Flyweight Title)

FLYWEIGHTS
Yoko Gushiken decisioned Yong-Hyun Kim, 15
(Retained WBA Jr. Flyweight Title)
Shigeo Nakajima decisioned Sung-Jun Kim, 15
(Won WBC Jr. Flyweight Title)
Charlie Magri stopped Anacito Vargas, 3
Mark Pacheco beat Norberto Castellano, 10
Jose Torres kayoed Jose Luis Leos, 2

Amateur ratings

HEAVYWEIGHT
1-Marvis Frazier, Philadelphia
2-Tony Tubbs, Santa Monica
3-Mitch Green, New York City
4-Jimmy Clark, Coatesville, Pa.
5-Woody Clark, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
6-David Bey, Germantown, Pa.
7-Philip Brown, New Orleans
8-Rufus Hadley, Marines
9-Alfonzo Ratliff, Chicago
10-Daniel Ramsey, Tucson

178 LBS.
1-Tony Tucker, Grand Rapids
2-Andre McCoy, New Bedford, Mass.
3-Elmer Martin, Navy
4-Jay Strickland, Dallas
5-Alex DeLucia Jr., Portland, Ore.
6-Walter Harris, San Francisco
7-Roger Kirpatrick, Columbia, S.C.
8-James Jones, Ft. Stewart, Ga.
9-Pete Corraiz Jr., Tucson
10-Porfirio Llanes, New York City

165 LBS.
1-Antonio Ayala, San Antonio
2-Jeff McCracken, Santa Monica
3-Alex Ramos, Bronx, N.Y.
4-Lamont Kirkland, Omaha
5-Lee Roy Murphy, Chicago
6-Randy Smith, Chicago
7-Jesse Valdez, San Diego
8-Monte Oswald, Bay City, Mich.
9-Jack Padia, Penngrove, Calif.
10-Bill Burns, Albuquerque
Kilismasi Schwenke, Salt Lake City

156 LBS.
1-James Shuler, Philadelphia
2-Jeff Stoudemire, Santa Monica
3-Alfred Mayes, St. Louis
4-Michael Grogan, Atlanta
5-Chuck Robinson, Santa Monica
6-Roosevelt Green, Santa Monica
7-James Rayford, Navy
8-Jody Wingfield, Baltimore
9-Chris Reid, Silver Lake, N.J.
9-Prestonsoto Eduardo, Fort Carson, Colo.

147 LBS.
1-Ed Green, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
2-Donald Curry, Fort Worth
3-Davey Moore, New York City
4-Milton McCrory, Detroit
5-Randy Jenkins, Philadelphia
6-Jeff Lemair, Rapid City, S.D.
7-Bobby Joe Young, Steubenville, Ohio
8-Robert Sawyer, Washington, D.C.
9-Ronnie Shields, Galena Park, Tex.
10-Roger McCane, Tacoma
Sean Pruitt, Columbus, Ga.

139 LBS.
1-Lemuel Steeples, St. Louis
2-Johnny Bumphus, Nashville
3-Byron Lindsay, National City, Calif.
4-Darrell Chambers, Detroit
5-Larry Tatman, Harahan, La.
6-Derek Hoyt, Everett, Wash.
7-Kelvin Burton, Santa Monica
8-Floyd Peavy, Rochester, N.Y.
9-Alfred Aguayo, Stockton, Calif.
10-Ronnie Romero, Salt Lake City

132 LBS.
1-Davey Armstrong, Santa Monica
2-Robin Blake, Levelland, Tex.
3-Pat Jefferson, Rapid City, S.D.
4-Anthony Fletcher, Philadelphia
5-Robert Hines, Philadelphia
6-Melvin Paul, New Orleans
7-Kelvin Andreason, Salt Lake City
8-Jimmie Paul, Detroit
9-Rudy Fuentez, Milwaukee
10-Ray Johnson, New York City

125 LBS.
1-Bernard Taylor, Charlotte, N.C.
2-Daniel Avery, Santa Monica
3-Roland Cooley, Philadelphia
4-Mike Felde, Missoula, Mont.
5-Ben Rodriguez, Omaha
6-Arnie Wells, Davison, Mich.
7-Billy White, Ozark, Ark.
8-Steve Pardoza, Hollister, Calif.
9-Pat Duran, Wichita Falls, Tex.
10-Eiichi Jumawan, Wahiawa, Hawaii
Dino Ramirez, LaPuente, Calif.

119 LBS.
1-Jackie Beard, Jackson, Tenn.
2-Kenneth Baysmore, Washington, D.C.
3-Steve Cruz, Fort Worth
4-Myron Taylor, Philadelphia
5-Ernie Chavez, Blackfoot, Ida.
6-Joe Johnson, Detroit
7-Steve Hindi, Albuquerque
8-Vincent Christian, Philadelphia
9-Rey Ordonio, Fairfield, Calif.
10-Willie Sanders, Washington, D.C.
Richard Savage, Lafayette, La.

112 LBS.
1-Jerome Coffee, Nashville
2-Harold Petty, St. Louis
3-Nathan Mattos, Hilo, Hawaii
4-Sonny Long, Santa Monica
5-Hurley Snead, Detroit
6-Amos Salazar, Albuquerque
7-Tyrone Stewart, Army
8-George Pimentel, New York City
9-James Cullins, Bladensburg, Md.
10-Louis Curtis, Washington, D.C.
Tony Montoya Jr., Salt Lake City

106 LBS.
1-Richard Sandoval, Pomona, Calif.
2-Israel Acosta, Milwaukee
3-Mike Caruthers, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
4-Ronald Byrd, Flint, Mich.
5-Manuel Soto, Salt Lake City
6-Gilbert Castillo, Lubbock, Tex.
7-Jeff Whaley, Santa Monica
8-Robert Shannon, Edmonds, Wash.
9-Miguel Rosario, New York City
10-Joe Roach, Dedham, Mass.

INSIDE BOXING

The coliseum in San Diego closed its doors recently after fifty years of swapping leather. It is now destined to become a furniture warehouse. Alas, another milestone has passed by the wayside . . . Miami's Dr. Ferdie Pacheco should make a valuable consultant in his new post at NBC TV's boxing department . . . West Coast boxing should get a move on now that veteran fight promoter Babe Griffin is besieged with offers to bring the ring game back to Sacramento . . . Jerry Quarry is back in the game, this time doing commentary for the new ESPN cable group. Heavyweight Duane Bobick was with them for a while too. Younger brother Mike Quarry is now back in the dust and resin of the ring . . .

Veteran California trainer Jackie McCoy journeyed to South Africa to teach heavyweight Gerrie Coetzee how to avoid being hit with right hand leads. McCoy took his heavyweight, Mircea Simon, along with him on the trip . . . Gaby Ferland, who boxed out of Montreal, is now the owner of "The Coop" restaurant on 163rd St., in Miami Beach. The restaurant has become a hot spot for boxing gentry in the area . . . Former jr. welterweight champ Eddie Perkins, a Chicago boy, is training a fighter named Maniac Baker . . . When former WBA light heavyweight champ Victor Galindez was stiffened by Marvin Johnson, he suffered a broken jaw in two places. Some say that even after he is fully recovered, Victor will not return to the ring. But as the saying goes, time heals all wounds, and I am sure he will give some very serious consideration to the matter.

The biggest pair-up for 1980 should be Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto Duran—at least that is the match everyone would like to see. Of course, if Leonard won the "other half" of the welterweight title before meeting Duran, the match would really be a sellout!

Leon Spinks is back in the running for world recognition — flbby but potent. He took Alfredo Evangelista's best shots, then came back to stop him in the fifth round in Atlantic City . . . Coingratulations to Dr. Ferdie Pacheco, who is now head of the NBC-TV boxing department. Dr. Pacheco was Muhammad Ali's personal physician and cornerman, when Ali was champion. A wise choice on the part of the National Broadcasting Company . . . It is a shame that Hedgemon Lewis, ex-fighter turned promoter, is losing a bundle with his fight cards in and around Los Angeles. When Hedgemon was a top welterweight contender, he would box anywhere to help a promoter out. Now, when he is in need of some help, many of the "names" aren't willing to show at his cards.

Marvelous Marvin Hagler is going to have trouble ever getting over his draw duke with champ Vito Antuofermo. It seems that Vito's performance really took something out of him. Hagler never before had a foe who would stand in front of him, beckon him to come fight and wasn't even phased by his punches!

Former fight mentor Baron Henry von Stumme and his wife of 60 years are alive and well and living in North Hollywood, California. The Baron, who once managed many of the "names" in this business, hit his 91st birthday in January. His wife Johanna will be 91 in September. The Baron's only world champ was Richie Lemos, who won the featherweight title on July 1, 1941 when he kayoed Petey Scalzo in five at the Olympic in Los Angeles. He lost the title to Jackie Wilson via a 12 round decision on Nov. 18th, same year, same arena . . . Rumor has it that Jake LaMotta's stepdaughter Stephanie and former Beatle Ringo Starr are a constant twosome. Stephanie was last linked with Donny Osmond . . . A big bash took place at the Touchdown Club annual awards dinner in Washington, D.C. Watergate judge, the Honorable John J. Sirica, was guest speaker. Bob Addie, brother of former N.Y. Garden announcer Johnny Addie, was m.c. Many of Washington's notables were on hand, including Marty Gallagher, former middleweight contender Georgie Abrams, Phil Furr, Joe Gannon, Steve Mamakos and veteran amateur heavyweight competitor Norvell Lee.

The death of Joseph Camiolo was sad news to New England boxing gentry. Camiolo, 49, of East Boston, boxed under the name of Joey Cam. Joey left behind three children and a wife. His older brother, Nuno, is ring announcer for all of the Boston Garden shows . . . Bob Turley, who served with dignity for years as executive secretary to the California State Athletic Commission and later as advisor for Top Rank, Inc., has thrown in the towel. Turley will not travel as much as he used to, but will remain, only on a fight-to-fight basis, with Bob Arum's crew . . . Big west coast honors for Richie Shinn, now a retired postman. Richie and his wife Cecilia received the Good Parents Award from Food Specialists in San Francisco. They are the proud parents of nine children.

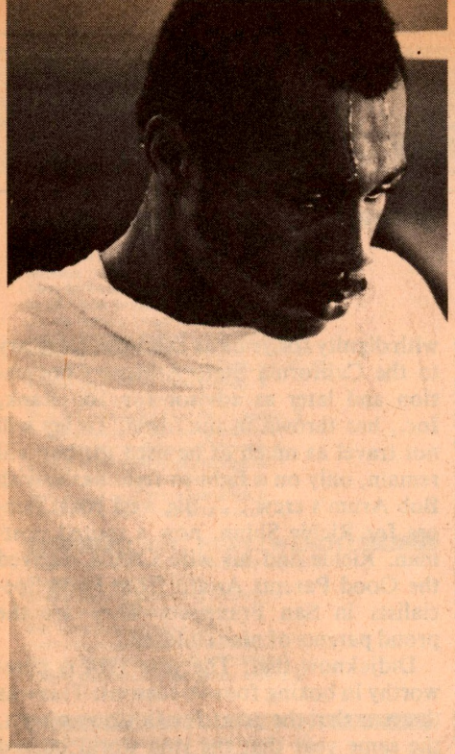
Didjaknow that: The year 1914 is noteworthy in boxing for two reasons: This was the year that the great Joe Louis was born, the same year that the ring world buzzed with talk about Ruby Robert Fitzsimmons, who was hanging up his gloves for good at the advanced age of 52! An old heavyweight champ was passing into retirement as a future champion was making his appearance. Fitzsimmons held three world titles in boxing: Middleweight, light heavyweight and heavyweight. He ruled with iron fists until he was 40, then continued in the ring until he was 52.

The longest bout in ring history was the Andy Bowen-Jack Burke lightweight fight at the Olympic Club in New Orleans, La., on April 6th, 1893. The purse was $2500 with a thousand dollar side bet as well! The fight arena was jammed to the rafters. Little did anyone there realize that he was sitting in on a history-making event. The battle, a bloody one from the start, went on and on. No one left the arena as the struggle continued—and the minutes and hours went by. The night dragged into dawn and with the first light of day the weary referee called a halt to the long contest. One hundred and ten rounds had been fought, lasting seven hours and nineteen minutes. To top it all off, the bout was ruled "no contest"; and no winner was declared! To this day it is the longest ring bout ever fought.

Former welterweight contender Chuck Davey, also a former Michigan State alumnus, is currently chairman of the Michigan State Athletic Commission. He and his wife are an inseparable duo. What most folks do not know about Chuck is that he can thank his old foe Carmen Basilio for his happy marriage. For after Chuck had been cut up by Carmen in a ring war, he went to the local hospital for a "patch up" job. There he met a good looking young nurse—who became his wife! They now reside in Birmingham, Michigan.

See you next month—keep punching!

"SAILOR" DON SAUER



KEN NORTON RATES THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

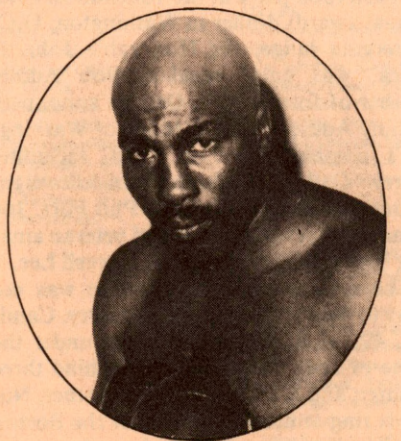
A MAN WHO FOUGHT THEM ALL—

When the hands of the clock reached straight up on January 1, 1980, signifying the end of one decade and the beginning of another, it also rang in the "new" and rang out the "old." And nowhere was that more true than in the heavyweight division, where the changing of the heavyweight guard of the seventies is almost complete: Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, George Foreman, Jerry Quarry and yours truly have all departed the scene, passing the torch on to some of the "newer" men in the division. Only fellow elder statesmen Jimmy Young, Ron Lyle and Earnie Shavers remain active. The rest are part of past history, and must be treated as such.

And although many of us take a cup of kindness every now and then and remember with misty eyes what "was," there is no place for nostalgia and sentimentality in assessing the heavyweight class of 1980. So, rather than dwelling on the "could haves" and "might have beens," let's look at what "is" — the current crop of heavies, challengers and champions alike.

Looking at the current group of heavyweights, I personally take exception to a recent *Newsweek* article which called them "Palookas". There are more than a "couple of exceptions," as the following list should indicate.

First, let's look at one name which has remained on the Top 10 list for much of the previous decade — *Larry Holmes*. Holmes, like most of my class, didn't do it overnight. He paid his dues, which I feel is the secret to longevity in boxing. He sparred with champions. He craved recognition. He suffered through the lean years. And, most of all, he learned the tools of his trade. Larry Holmes is without a doubt the best heavyweight in the world today. He has speed, ability, strength and that intangible known as desire that separates champions from contenders. He's been able to reach back and pull out victory from what a newspaper friend of mine calls "the jaws of defeat" time after time. Holmes is also



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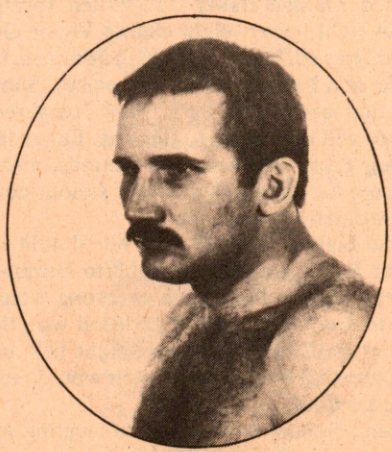


SCOTT LEDOUX

ALI TO ZANON—LOOKS AT THE CURRENT CROP

maturing and could go on to become one of our great champions.

The next on our list is *"Big" John Tate,* the WBA champion. Tate is improving all the time. Although he wasn't thrilling in his victory over the South African Coetzee, he got the job done. He's not a puncher but does have excellent stamina and strength. He needs more experience and if he doesn't get knocked off along the way, could become a good one.

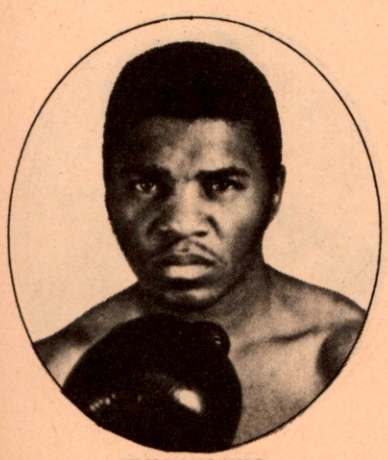
Mike Weaver, who gave Holmes quite a scare in their title outing, is one of the strongest heavyweights in boxing. He possesses a good jab, strong body attack and can hurt you with either hand. At times, he appears lazy in the ring and has to be fired-up. Mike is capable of winning it all on any given night.

Michael Dokes has been very impressive in spots. Just 21 years old and undefeated in 17 fights, he has a tremendous amateur background with 147 wins in 154 fights. Mike has excellent hand and feet speed, throws sharp combinations behind a good jab and has ring savvy. Still growing at 6'3", 211 pounds, he should soon crack the top 10.

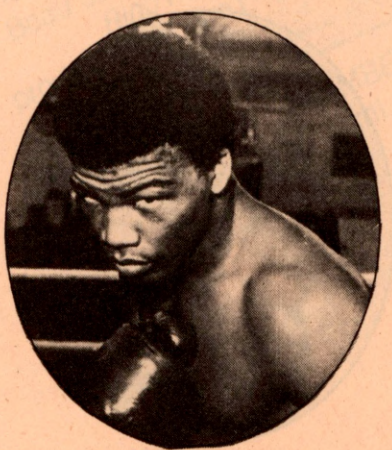
Leroy Jones, the North American champ, is still unbeaten. A good boxer with exceptional speed for a man so big, (6'5", 230-250) "Big" Leroy is not known for being a puncher. He beat Mike Weaver to capture the NABF title and will be tough, but not overly exciting, in any match.

Earnie Shavers is the most devastating puncher in boxing. That single factor makes him a constant threat in any contest. There's some speculation about an eye problem, but if Earnie does continue, that will mean the eye is okay.

Alfio Righetti from Italy is one of Europe's best, maybe the best. He has very good size and strength and boxes well behind a stiff jab. He takes a punch and has a pretty decent right hand himself. He almost took Spinks out with a right in a very close loss to Spinks before Leon beat Ali.



JIMMY YOUNG



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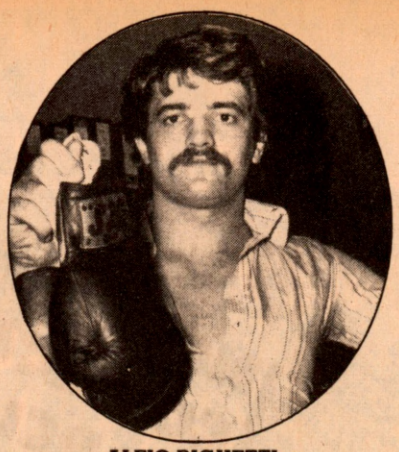
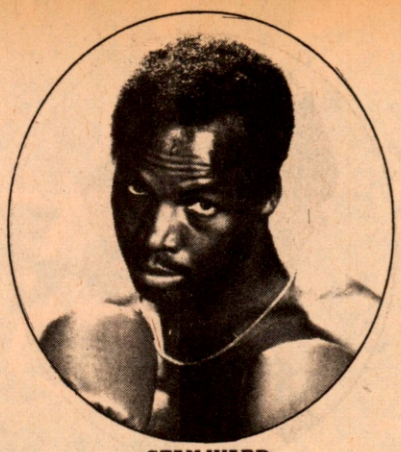


ALFIO RIGHETTI



STAN WARD

Leon Spinks remains a big question mark. He certainly has ability, strength and stamina, but has to get his head together if he is ever going to make it to the top again. Regardless of the kind of shape Ali was in when Spinks fought him, Leon still went out there and took the crown, which the rest of us failed to do.

Gerrie Coetzee didn't show too much of anything with Tate. He has good speed but the so-called "bionic right" that he beat Spinks with, was nothing. It would seem that Coetzee and his countryman Knoetze would have to have a couple of impressive wins over some established heavyweights to be considered top contenders.

Eddie "The Animal" Lopez is a colorful, rugged heavyweight who could give anyone trouble when he is in condition. Very unpredictable and determined, Lopez will come at you from all angles. Not especially big, Eddie is strong and takes a very good shot.

Gerry Cooney of New York has excellent size and strength. Although he hasn't been tested, he appears to have the potential to become a top heavyweight. He has a good jab and power in either hand. Undefeated Cooney must start upgrading his competition to gain the necessary experience.

Percell "Magic" Davis, unbeaten in eight starts, shows a lot of talent. He has good moves and very quick hands. Originally from Detroit, Davis is now fighting out of Los Angeles. A cocky youngster, Davis is looking to start fighting names. Let's not be in too much of a rush — time is on your side.

Stan Ward is a heavyweight with tremendous ability. He has good speed, size and strength, and can box as well as punch. He could be more aggressive in spots, when he seems content to lay back and counter. If he gets back on the right track, Stan could make it to the top.

Jimmy Young, at one time, the most clever heavyweight in the ring, will have to regain some of his old form to threaten for the title. An excellent counter-puncher with great ring sense, Jimmy has fought in less than top condition for his last few fights.

Marty Monroe from Los Angeles hasn't had too much ink but he is a very capable heavyweight who can box and punch. Still undefeated, Marty seems to have trouble getting fights, registering only four in 1977 and 1978 combined. That kind of inactivity can not only be discouraging, but can impede his progress as well.

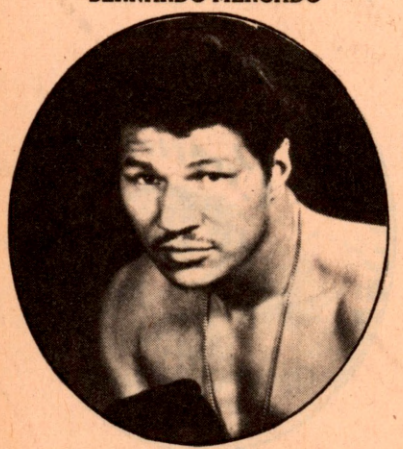
Marvin Stinson, a boxer with ample skill and an unbeaten slate, has the capacity to become a very good one. A stepped up program of bouts would help Marvin's progress.

Ossie Ocasio of Puerto Rico has had some good fights. He has only lost once and that was against a well-prepared Larry Holmes for the title. A small heavyweight, Ocasio does have good strength and punching power for his size.

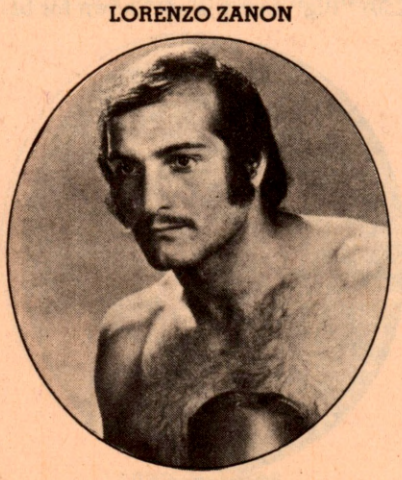
Scott LeDoux is a tough, rugged performer. He seems to keep falling a hair short of winning the big ones, but will hang tough with the best. Very strong and a fair puncher, LeDoux will let anyone know that they've been in a fight.

Lorenzo Zanon, the European Heavyweight Champion from Italy, is a fast, awkward boxer. His style can give anyone fits. I was fortunate to catch up with him in the fifth round. Not much of a puncher, his

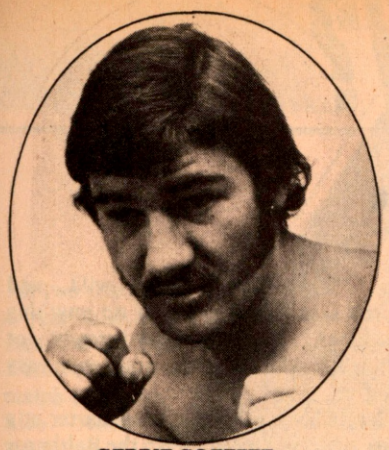
BERNARDO MERCADO



LORENZO ZANON



MIKE WEAVER



GERRIE COETZEE

quick jab and unpredictable moves can make him difficult. Doesn't take the best punch but he's not easy to hit.

Bernardo Mercado is as strong as anyone in the division. He punches well but hasn't had the stamina after the first few rounds. A lack of good training habits and a steady trainer have seemed to have something to do with his slow progress.

Young Joe Louis is a small package of dynamite. Under 200 pounds, he is very muscular with long enough arms to pack a good, stiff jab. He appears to be another solid young prospect we may hear from.

There are some others I'd like to reserve comment on, since I haven't seen them. But I'll mention *George Chaplin* from Baltimore; *Pinklon Thomas* from Pontiac, Michigan and *Mercia Simon*, who is fighting out of California.

Each of these men can be called upon to not only give their best, but perhaps become the "best;" each battling to reach the top of their class and profession. Some will make it, others will drop from sight. And still others may become "opponents." But none of them are "Palookas." ■

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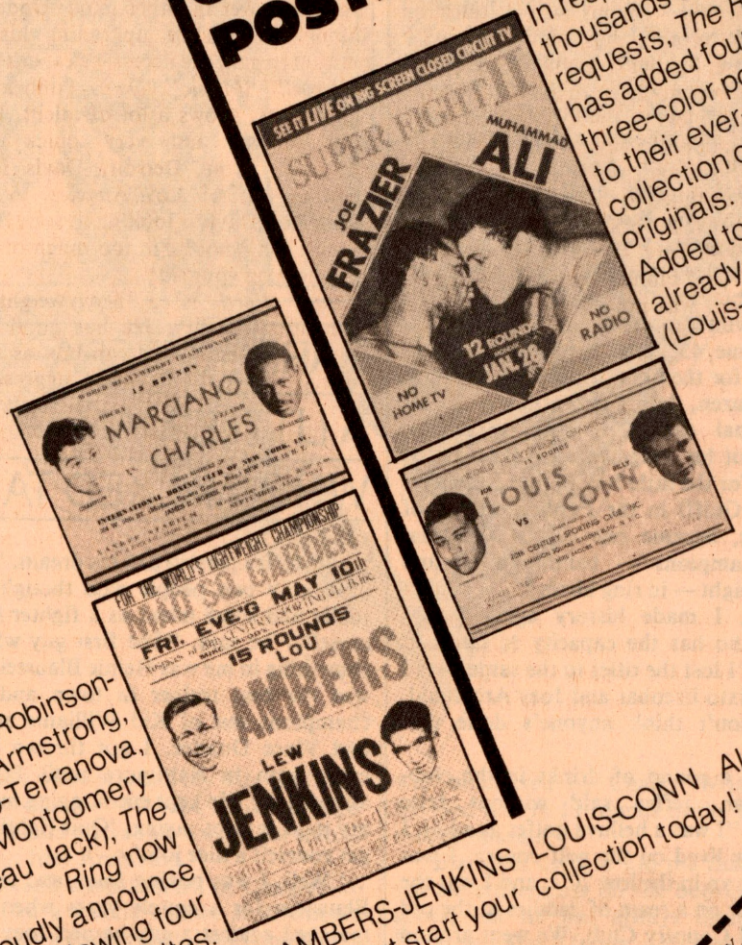

In response to thousands of requests, *The Ring* has added four new three-color posters to their ever-growing collection of originals. Added to those four already available (Louis-Schmeling, Robinson-Armstrong, Pep-Terranova, the Montgomery-Beau Jack), *The Ring* now proudly announce the following four fistic favorites:

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

HARRY JEFFRA— A LITTLE MAN WHO WALKED TALL

By ALAN GOLDSTEIN

The little guy with the bouncy walk approached the ball on the 18th green, measured the long putt, then deftly stroked the ball into the cup for a birdie.

A broad grin crossed his round, cherubic face. "Maybe I picked the wrong game after all," he said. "Maybe I could have been a golf champion like Gene Sarazen or Bobby Jones."

Harry Jeffra laughed all the way to the clubhouse at Pine Ridge golf course in suburban Baltimore, where at the age of 65, and only six months after open heart surgery, he plays a daily round of par golf until the winter frost sets in.

But some 45 years ago, when he was caddying for the likes of his boyhood idol, Gene Sarazen, Jeffra chose boxing as his professional career. It was a difficult choice, but his judgment could hardly be faulted. For the little Italian, born Ignacius Pasquali Guiffi in the Pimlico section of Baltimore, became one of the few dual world champions — bantamweight and featherweight — in ring history.

"Later, I made history again," says Jeffra, who has the capacity to laugh at himself. "I lost the titles to the same guys I beat — Sixto Escobar and Joey Archibald. And I don't think anyone's done that since."

Buying a round of drinks in the clubhouse bar, Jeffra said without false modesty, "I was a helluva golfer as a kid. I practically lived on the golf course. I was always down in the low 70's, and I was the best player on a team of caddies at the old Maryland Country Club. We went around the state and beat most of the club pros. But, for some reason, I always thought I had more of a future as a fighter."

This reasoning was hard to understand for people who remember Jeffra as an amateur boxer. Even Jeffra, himself, shudders at the memory.

"I had 28 amateur bouts and won all but 27," he said without stretching the truth. "I couldn't fight. Period. I'd get the hell kicked out of me — in the ring and in the street. Back in those days, I thought I was a puncher, but I couldn't knock my mother's hat off."

But Jeffra persisted in his dream. "There were only two people who thought I actually had some talent as a fighter besides myself," he said. "The first guy who saw something in me was Heinie Blaustein, who was the best trainer in town and made champions out of Kid Williams and Joe and Vince Dundee. I got thrown out of every gym in Baltimore until Blaustein adopted me. He kept encouraging me while my mother kept saying, 'Quit fighting and get yourself a nice job.'

"Well, I was boxing fours and sixes for Blaustein for a couple years when I was matched against a guy named Joey Allen. Jack Dempsey was the referee. I got licked that night, but Dempsey grabbed me later and said I had more ability than the other guy. He asked me who my manager was. A banker named J.L. Rosenthal had my contract, but he was using me as a sparring partner for his main even fighter, Bucky Taylor. So I signed to fight for Dempsey and Max Waxman, and a year later I was bantamweight champion."

Dempsey was also in Jeffra's corner a few years later at Madison Square Garden when Jeffra took off his championship robe and discovered he had forgotten his trunks. "The Garden went wild, and Dempsey said, 'Harry, you'll do anything for a laugh.' But the crowd really got behind me, made me relax, and I won easy that night."

Jeffra, who serves as a toastmaster at a number of sports banquets in the Baltimore area, was just warming up.

"You know," he said, "I was the only fighter in history who took two days to win a title. The night I whipped Escobar for the bantam crown (September 23, 1937), they had four title bouts on the Polo Grounds card and called it the 'Carnival of Champions.' Besides Escobar, Barney Ross, Lou Ambers and Marcel Thil also defended their championships.

"But my fight with Escobar was the last one scheduled," Jeffra added. "We knew we'd go in the ring real late, so Blaustein brought a pillow and blanket to the stadium so I could get some sleep. But I kept waking up, and I didn't like what I was seeing. First, Thil comes in, and he's a real mess after (Fred) Apostoli knocked him out. Then, a little later, they drag in (Ceferino) Garcia. And his face looks like chop meat after Ross got through with him. I figure I'm in the wrong dressing room.

"Well, I finally climb in the ring just before midnight. And by the time the referee, Arthur Donovan, raises my hand and calls me the new champion, it's 1 A.M. So, I guess, you can say it took me two days to win the bantamweight title."

Jeffra had whipped the clever, little Puerto Rican in two previous non-title scraps, but surprisingly found himself the underdog in their first title encounter.

I guess I really know why," he said. "I was training at the old Stillman's Gym where the fight mob hung out, and word got around town in a hurry that I'd been knocked down by a little Japanese sparring partner.

"Well, I was always the worst gym fighter in the world, that's 'cause I was always experimenting with new tricks. But the gamblers figured that if this little Japanese guy could knock me on my rear, Escobar would tear me apart. I remember Georgie Goldberg, who was one of the big gamblers in New York, told Blaustein the day before the fight, 'Your guy is goin' to get murdered.'

"All the smart money guys bet on Escobar, and when I beat him 12 out of 15 rounds, Goldberg figured he'd been suckered and didn't talk to Blaustein

for two years." A year later, Escobar regained the title from Jeffra in a rematch in Puerto Rico. "About the eighth round, I got hit with a real good shot flush on my jaw, and now I'm bleeding from both my mouth and nose," he recalled. "Blaustein is begging me to quit, but I told him, 'Give me a few more rounds, and I'll knock this monkey out.'

"Well, I cut Escobar to ribbons the last three rounds. They had to sew his face together, but I couldn't finish him. And I knew that if I didn't knock him out in Puerto Rico, there was no way I could win and get out of there in one piece.

"After the fight, we searched the whole island for a doctor. I think we found the only American doctor in Puerto Rico, but he had to be about 90 years old. He told me the only thing he could find wrong with me was an infected tooth.

"We had to take a boat back to New York, and it took us four days because of a dock strike. By the time we docked, my jaw was the size of a watermelon. Blaustein was ready to call the undertaker. But he rushed me to the hospital where, right away, they could see my jaw was busted. And they put me right into surgery."

It was seven months before Jeffra would climb in the ring again. During his lengthy convalescence, he grew disillusioned and considered retirement.

"I was serious about quitting, but one morning, my wife, Martha, says, 'I'm calling Jack Dempsey and asking him to book you a couple of fights.'

"I couldn't understand it. I thought she'd be happy to see me quit. But she says, 'You're not fooling me a bit. You've been crying and talking in your sleep almost every night. You want to fight again, and I'm not going to stop you until it's completely out of your system.'

"That's why I still call my wife the featherweight champ.' Without her encouragement, I would noever have won that second title from Joey Archibald."

But it took almost an act of Congress to gain Jeffra a second chance at Archibald after he lost a controversial split decision in their first scuffle in Washington, September 28, 1939.

"Al Weill was handling Archibald," Harry remembered, "and I know he had a say in appointing the officials, especially Benny Leonard, who was the referee. When they announced the decision, they had a riot on their hands. There was such a stink about it, I *had* to get a rematch."

This time, it was no contest. Jeffra floored Archibald five times and won a lopsided decision to claim the 126-pound title; only to lose it back a year later.

Jeffra had one more shot at the title, but was outclassed by Chalky Wright, who stopped him in 10 rounds in the old Baltimore Coliseum.

"Blaustein used to kid me that I could sell advertisements on the bottoms of my shoes, but he was always needling me. Heck, in 120 pro fights, only two guys ever stopped me — Danny London and Chalky Wright."

He was still fighting in 1950, when he finally retired after losing a 10-round decision to Packy McFarland.

"People knock boxing," he says, "but I owe everything I have to fighting. I own two houses and sent four kids to college from the money I earned in the ring. It's a debt I'll never be able to repay."

But anyone who has had the pleasure of Harry Jeffra's company figures he's more than paid a bonus on boxing's investment in him.

Should James Scott be allowed to fight?

Our January, 1980 issue featured an article on James Scott. Scott is the fighter who is known as the #2 ranked light heavyweight by *The Ring*, the same position he held in the World Boxing Association's ratings before being stripped of his rank because he is inmate #57735 at Rahway State Prison in New Jersey where according to the law, he'll be vacationing for the next 30-40 years.

Along with the article, which gave both sides of the James Scott situation, *The Ring* included a Reader's Poll which gave YOU the opportunity to voice your opinion on whether James Scott should be allowed to fight for the light heavyweight title.

With few exceptions, the opinions were basically the same. The people who said NO felt that he is a prisoner and should be treated as such with no special privileges, while Scott's supporters felt that he has proven he is of world-class calibre and should be allowed a shot, prison or no prison. One reader did an excellent job of fence walking when he stated that Scott should be allowed a title shot, but not while he is in prison.

The Reader's Poll, which was overwhelmingly in favor of Scott getting a title shot, boasted a reply by former welterweight champion-turned-actor Carlos Palomino who stated "James Scott has earned a title shot. Let's help him!"

Readers' Poll: Pros 170; Cons 64

The Ring staff are not without their own opinions, which although not included in the official tabulation, are as follows:

Bert Sugar, Editor & Publisher

The question is not whether he can fight; the answer is obviously he *can*. Nor is the question really whether James Scott should be allowed to fight; the answer to that is also "yes." The real question is "Should James Scott be allowed to fight outside the confines of Rahway State Prison?" One of the primary purposes of incarceration is rehabilitation. And, according to those on the Parole Board, as well as those who deal with Scott on a day-to-day basis, the evidence is overwhelming that James Scott has not become rehabilitated while in prison. Therefore, while merely being a prisoner — or for that matter, an ex-prisoner — does not disqualify James Scott from fighting any more than it did John Gully or Sonny Liston, until he exhibits that conduct demanded of him by the society he inhabits, which is no more than what is demanded of every man, he should not be allowed to ply his trade *outside* prison.

Herbert G. Goldman, Managing Editor

The decision to allow James Scott to pursue his professional boxing career while a prisoner was made when he had his first contest in Rahway State Prison. To reverse that position now would be arbitrary, inconsistent, and unfair to a man who has invested so much work and effort in training over the past two years under the assumption that he would be allowed to continue his career.

Nat Loubet, Associate Publisher

The urge to rehabilitate men serving time in prisons is certainly notable. The case of James Scott fighting as a professional brings up the question as to whether it is fair to the other inmates with other skills who are not permitted to perform professionally. The American system is supposed to operate on the premise of equality for all. If Scott is rehabilitated should he not be paroled? If he is not, does he deserve this special privilege? I think not.

Randy Gordon, Associate Editor

Scott is attempting to do something constructive with his life. He has set a beautiful example for athletically gifted inmates the world over. If he is denied a title shot, there is no such thing as rehabilitation in our prison system.

Arthur Rembert, Assistant Editor

James Scott fought five times in 1979 and every one of his bouts was on national television. At this point, to deprive him of an opportunity to fight for the title would be blatant exploitation. Why invite him to the party if you won't allow him to dance?

Jack Goodman, Assistant Editor

In all cases such as this, there will always be pro's and con's (no pun intended) as to whether he should be allowed to fight outside prison walls. Since the commission has allowed him to get this far, he should be allowed to leave the confines of the prison to fight. If he loses, it's just one more so called "bad apple" back in prison.

Two Views: One Pro, One Con

Firstly I'd like to thank Ring Magazine for the article on me which appeared in the January issue. Obviously, I'd like to forget my past, and I sincerely wish that the public at large would realize that the past is in fact, the past and nothing can change it. I do have to admit however, that the article was fair and unbiased one way or the other.

As far as my situation itself is concerned, the fact that I've been fortunate enough to receive international exposure through boxing shows that I am anything but a trouble-maker. I'd like to think that my record in the ring and out, since I've been at Rahway speaks for itself, so when the WBA stripped me of my rating, they also stripped the hopes of other inmates across the country. This not only involves boxing, but also tennis, basketball, baseball, plumbing, carpentry, or any other avenue that an inmate might use to rehabilitate himself so that he is ready to live in harmony with society.

Where is the encouragement? Are we not here to ready ourselves for the day when we are free? How many people who have been free all of their lives rise to the status of #2 light heavyweight contender in the world?

Again, the past is the past. All I ask is the opportunity. This situation goes much farther than sports.

James Scott
Rahway, N.J.

Instead of worrying so much about James Scott, why don't you try to write a little about the dedicated fighters who are keeping their noses clean and trying to make it in this boxing game?

I feel that your magazine is very biased — the Eastern fighters get all the publicity. My son-in-law, Yaqui Lopez, has fought every tough son of a bitch in the 175 lb. division, and in their own back yards! He had the flu for four days before the Scott fight and then after being promised a 20 ft. ring, the fight was fought in a 15 ft. ring.

Yaqui wants to fight Scott again. He says that Scott doesn't punch nearly as hard as many of his other opponents. If Yaqui had been healthy and the fight had taken place in a decent-sized ring, Yaqui would have kicked his ass!

Jack Cruz
Stockton, Cal.

RED ALL OVER

BY RED SMITH

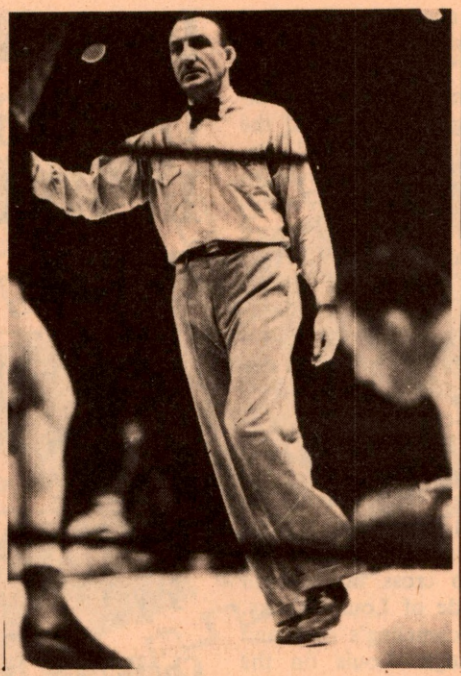
THIRTY-FIVE years after his seconds threw in the towel, Max Schmeling climbed back into the ring with Joe Louis and Arthur Donovan, the referee. The three principals in two of the most memorable fistfights of this century lent their mellow presence to an amateur tournament between teams from West Germany and the United States in New York some seven years ago. There weren't many in the hall who saw both bouts — the one on June 19, 1936, when Schmeling, the former heavyweight champion of the world, knocked out the unbeaten youngster from Detroit in the 12th round, and the single round on June 22, 1938, when Louis destroyed the German in defense of the title he had won from Jimmy Braddock.

Arthur Donovan saw them, from an arm's length away.

"What I remember about the first bout," Donovan said, "Louis got a bad break but you couldn't stop it. The bell rang ending the fifth or sixth round and I was moving toward them when the German hit him a terrific punch. It was after the bell but you can't withhold a punch once it goes. The way I saw it, Louis never recovered from that shot.

"The German had trouble with his feet and couldn't retreat. I think he had fallen arches in both feet. He carried his right hand on his chest and his stance was odd. Louis let go a hook that turned into a swing, it had to because on account of that odd stance you had to punch wide to reach the head. Schmeling moved inside the hook with that short right, and that's what started it.

"The second fight Louis started out jabbing. He had the most vicious jab I ever saw on a fighter. If Max Baer was alive you could ask him, 'Max, what did Joe's jab feel like?' He'd say, 'What did it feel like? Like a bomb bursting in your face.' Well, Louis jabbed him and jabbed him and let go a straight right that started the German backwards, but bad as he was hurt he still threw a right that Louis was lucky it landed high on his cheek or it woulda knocked him out right there. After he missed that,



THIRD MAN WITH NINE LIVES

Schmeling had no chance.

"They complained later about a kidney punch but they weren't in a clinch. Schmeling was holding onto the ropes, got his arm tangled in the ropes, and that's why the punch hit him in the kidney instead of the head. Max let a groan out of him and geez, it scared me because I never heard anything like that before. One of the German's seconds threw in a towel, it almost hit me in the face and I threw it back in the press row.

"I knew then I couldn't be wrong stopping the fight, they were admitting defeat. But they weren't gonna take the play away from me, saying they stopped it. It was my responsibility and I was the one who stopped the fight and they agreed, with the towel. Louis had a man in his corner, Jack Blackburn, who was a great fighter and one of the few great fighters who could explain things to help a fighter. I'm sure he must've told Louis about Schmeling's stance.

"I worked about 16 of Louis's fights and they called me Joe Louis's referee, but I never spoke to the man in my life in public. Remember the night Tami Mauriello hit Louis the first punch and if it hadn't of been for the ropes Louis would of gone down? That Italian boy could hit. They blamed me, said I got in the way, but what was I supposed to do? Go take him by the arm and say, 'Hit him again'? He was so shocked himself he didn't know what to do and just stood off five or six feet. Finally Joe came off the ropes punching, and that was that.

"Tony Galento, too. If he had of won that night it would've ruined boxing because he was no ornament. He knocked Louis down. If he'd of been an inch taller Louis would've got up and flattened him but he was so short Louis couldn't reach him with the final punch. Finally in the fourth Joe nailed him and Galento went down with his feet sticking straight up in the air, funniest thing I ever saw. I tried to pick up one leg but I dropped it quick.

"Before I got into boxing I was at sea four years in the Merchant Marine. I went through training school at Fort Schuyler. We made a summer cruise to England on a gunboat, a barkentine, square-rigged forward, fore-and-aft on the main and mizzen. We were in Plymouth Harbor and some English cadets came aboard. Their skipper said did we have any boxers and our skipper said he guessed we could oblige and they made up a tournament.

"I was 117 pounds when I went in but clinging that rigging I built up to 157 and I was strong. I was boxing this English fella and I threw a jab and he ducked it. I thought, that's a funny thing. I fiddled around a little and threw another jab. He started to duck and I brought up an uppercut and knocked him clean overboard. The water was full of cadets pulling him out.

"In Havana Harbor a big English mate slapped me in an argument. He was about 250 pounds with a black mustache but him being English I couldn't take that. I hit him a hook and flattened him. They told me, 'You can punch like that, better get yourself a professional fight.' There were two brothers who promoted fights in the Olympic A.C. on 21st Street and they put me on in a four-rounder so I became a fighter.

"In 1914 my father retired after 38 years as boxing instructor at the New York Athletic Club. He had some great and wonderful students like Teddy Roosevelt. In 1915 I succeeded him and I was instructor there 50 years to the day, to the hour, to the minute, to the second, to the time. I retired at 3 p.m., Sept. 1, 1965."

GREAT KO'S

By JIM JACOBS

The year was 1938. Europe was throbbing to the sound of goose-stepping boots and a demented paper-hanger's mad ravings. War was less than 15 months away and every arena was being used for propaganda purposes — even the sports arena.

First, the 1936 Berlin Olympics had been used as a forum for Ayrain superiority. Then, on June 22, 1938, it was the boxing arena, where Hitler's pride, Max Schmeling, took on the American "schwartza", Joe Louis, for the heavyweight championship of the world.

No other fight in boxing history had such political and sociological overtones–not even the Jack Johnson-Jim Jeffries fight 28 years before. This one was for more than boxing supremacy; it was for world bragging rights.

Louis and Schmeling had met two years before, on June 19, 1936, at Yankee Stadium, when Schmeling was the ex-heavyweight champion of the world and the undefeated Louis the future heavyweight champion. Louis, the prohibitive favorite — with a record of 27 straight victories, 23 by knockout — began the fight by sticking his left in the black-browed German's face, winning rounds and closing Schmeling's left eye. But in the fourth, eschewing his successful style, Louis changed from a jab to a left hook and Schmeling, who claimed he had "seed something" in films of Louis' previous fights, proceeded to cross his straight right inside of Louis' hooks. One of Schmeling's overhand rights caught Louis on the head and drove him to the canvas. "The Brown Bomber" arose shakily at the count of two, but was obviously in trouble, so dazed he didn't even hear the bell for the end of the round. From that point on, it was only a matter of time until the end, which finally — and mercifully — came at 2:29 of the twelfth round when Schmeling clubbed Louis with two more overhand rights.

Suddenly, the supposedly invincible Louis was just, in the words of the New York *World-Telegram*, an "ordinary boxer." And "Unser Max" was the toast of the totalitarian world, with Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, the dreaded head of Nazi propaganda, calling Schmeling's wife first to tell her the news and offering his, and Der Fuehrer's, heartiest congratulations.

Now, two years later — and one year to the day after he had won the heavyweight championship of the world by knocking out Jim Braddock in eight rounds — Louis entered the ring at Yankee Stadium to defend his title for the fourth time; this time against the only man to ever beat him, Max Schmeling.

With the betting crowd in Louis' corner, favoring him at 9-5, and Der Fuehrer in Schmeling's, having called him personally before he left the dressing room, the two combatants came to the middle of the ring for the final instructions from referee Arthur Donovan. That would be the last time the outcome was in doubt.

For almost as soon as the bell for Round One sounded, the champion was across the ring, swarming all over his former conqueror. As the crowd of 75,000 howled, Louis whipped a left hook to the German's chin and then rained rights and lefts to the body of the helpless challenger to send him to his knees before the fight was 30 seconds old.

Three more times Louis drove Schmeling to the canvas with a vicious body attack. Schmeling staggered to his unsteady feet twice. The third time a towel fluttered in and Arthur Donovan called a finish to the fight at just 2:04 of the first round.

Even before the final knockdown, heavy-lidded Germans, gathered by their shortwave sets at three in the morning, had begun to turn them off, to return to staring glumly into their half-empty beer steins. And in black ghettos throughout America, celebrations were taking place, honoring the man who had brought honor to his people — and to America.

LAST ROUND

JACK SOLOMONS

Jack Solomons, the British counterpart of Tex Rickard, always boasted that however unpredictable the English elements, the sun was guaranteed to shine whenever he promoted an open-air extravaganza. It always obliged.

Jolly Jack, arguably the best boxing showman of his time, died last December, a day short of his 79th birthday—although the old master of Limey maul claimed he was two years younger. He was buried on a dismal afternoon near Dagenham. Yet, as the service began in the synagogue, the damp mist suddenly lifted. A brilliant sun shone. The old sorcerer had done it again. It sank the second his coffin was lowered into a frosty, reddish earth.

We called him "The Sultan of Sock," "Mr. Boxing," and a few not-so-flattering epithets.

His original offices were above a snooker pool room opposite London's first legit strip theatre in Soho.

The place was frequented by court judges, a government hangman, film stars, champions, sports, show biz personalities and hustlers. They went to hear showman Solomons laughing at work, the most powerful fight figure in Europe—and of considerable influence in America. He virtually ran the only game in town; the longest running show in London.

There was a time when no American fighter could appear in Europe without the approval of Solomons and the Garden's Jim Norris. The postwar monopoly was broken by the present incumbent, Mr. Harry Levene, (now officially partnered with peripatetic Mickey Duff).

Jack staged 24 world title fights from Harringay Arena (now demolished) to open-air White City, Wales, Brazil and Nigeria. Sugar Ray Robinson, Gus Lesnevich, Dado Marino, Jimmy Carter, Chartchai Chionoi, Ike Williams, Archie Moore, Joe Brown, Emile Griffith, Joey Maxim, Sugar Ramos—they all fought for Solomons.

And, word has it, they all went home with the agreed loot to the penny. Often his deals were consummated by a handshake.

Sugar Ray's shocking loss to Randy Turpin at the Earls Court Exhibition Hall was Jack's proudest night, even though a relative suffered a fatal heart attack that night at ringside. He told the world that Turpin, the powerful ex-Navy cook, would clobber the marvelous Sugar Ray who had been living it up during an extended European fight tour.

The printed official odds were 33-1 against Turpin winning on points. He did it and nobody could argue that the Sugarman was jobbed. Though the B.B.C. radio announcers were painfully fencesitting, the 18,000 customers were roaring the jolly British aria "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" from the 13th round on.

When Jack cleverly talked Robinson's advisors into accepting 28,000 pounds—bargain basement prices nowadays—he broke the news to me. We were driving out of a greyhound race meeting, adjoining Harringay Arena, but he forced me to keep the secret until an official announcement. I choked withholding the best sports story of the year, but I knew it was Jack's way of testing my integrity.

His power at that time extended not only as chairman of the Boxing Board's Southern Area council—a group of licence holders I dubbed "The Crazy Gang"—but to the ears of newspaper proprietors as well.

A Solomons promotion was something special—even his enemies agreed. He would change dinner jacket from white to midnight blue or tartan as the sun dimmed at an open air show. His cigar was as much a part of the fight scene as the Lonsdale Belt. And he punctuated his speech with colourful Solomonesque expressions like "We tame lions." With a bit more shyness he could have been an extrovert.

He smiled broadly, made wisecracks that upstaged comedians, and enticed Royalty back to ringsides. Sometimes his curtain-raising fight would feature a champion. American entrepenuers envied him.

He waved to admirers like a potentate. Inevitably, in his ebbing years Solomons was awarded the Order of the British Empire and presented to H.M. The Queen at Buckingham Palace.

He was the only son of seven children born in London, appropriately at Frying Pan Alley, of a Polish immigrant who was a fishmonger.

Jack, too, became a big fish before turning to bookmaking—a distinguished profession in Britain that surprisingly brings the highest respectability besides other material rewards.

He boxed briefly as a teenager, calling himself Kid Mears. At 19, his schoolday sweetheart, Fay, threatened "It's me or the fight game". He retired, married, and Fay passed away only days after Jack—the month of their diamond wedding.

He lived life to the fullest, hobnobbed with kings; had been bookie, fishmonger, disc jockey, world traveller; and didn't care if he dropped cockney "aitches" quicker than his heavyweights. His wardrobe at his Brighton, Sussex, home matched that of any Hollywood star.

To stay The Guv'nor of his business it took a man with a big heart, a sense of humour, knowing eyes, sympathetic ears and a thick skin to survive.

Unlike a fair share of traders who regard boxing only as a thing of booty, Solomons cared. Because he left no children, the bulk of his estate was donated for a Trust to help old boxers—a Benevolent Fund.

"I can't stand seeing old boxers begging for a few bob" he told matchmaker Paddy Byrne, his successor at the WSC, only days before his death. He left them his lot.

Solomons went out with style. Goodbye, old pal.

By REGGIE GUTTERIDGE

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